

# THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Drama.

No. 3123.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1887.

PRICE  
THREEPENCE  
REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER

**SOUTH PLACE CHAPEL, FINSBURY.**—Dr. STANTON COIT (of the Ethical Culture Movement, New York) will deliver a SERIES of LECTURES on SUNDAY MORNINGS, September 4th, 11th, 18th, and 25th. Subjects:—Sept. 4th, 'The Death of Socrates'; Sept. 11th, 'The Ethics of Shakespeare'; Sept. 18th and 25th, 'Ethical Culture as a Religion for the People.' Sept. 18th, Part I.; Sept. 25th, Part II. Service at 11.15 a.m.

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**THE HERKOMER SCHOOL, BUSHEY, Herts.**—Established 1883, Incorporated 1887.—The NEXT TERM will commence on MONDAY, 3rd October, 1887. Applicant for admission must send examples of their Work before the 17th September. CHAS. H. THOMAS, Secretary.

**NATIONAL ART TRAINING SCHOOL,** South Kensington. Visitor—EDWARD J. FOYNTER, Esq., R.A. Principal—JOHN C. L. SPARKES, Esq. The ANNUAL SESSION will commence on WEDNESDAY, the 5th of October. Art Classes in connexion with the Training School are open to the public on payment of fees. The Classes for Men and Women Students meet separately. The Studies comprise Drawing, Painting, and Modelling as applied to Ornament, the Figure, Landscape, and Still Life. Candidates for admission, who are not already registered as Students of the School, must have passed the Second Grade Examination in Free-hand Drawing. Special Admission Examinations will be held at the School on TUESDAY, the 27th September, and TUESDAY, the 4th of October, at 11.45 a.m. and 6.45 p.m. on both days, and on subsequent TUESDAYS at frequent intervals during the Session. Applications for information as to fees and for admission should be made in writing to the Secretary, Department of Science and Art, S.W.; or, on and after the 5th of October, personally to the Registrar at the School, Exhibition Road, South Kensington, S.W. By order of the Lords of the Committee of Council on Education.

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**KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON.**—The several DEPARTMENTS will OPEN on the following dates:—Department of Theology .. .. . { On Thursday, Oct. 6, but new Students admitted on Tuesday, Oct. 4. Department of General Literature .. .. . { Monday, Oct. 3. Department of Engineering .. .. . { Monday, Oct. 3. Department of Medicine .. .. . { Monday, Oct. 10. Department of the School .. .. . { Wednesday, Sept. 21, but new Pupils admitted on Tuesday, Sept. 20. The Prospectus of any Department may be obtained by application to the Office, or by letter addressed to J. W. CUNNINGHAM, Secretary.

**KINGSTON-UPON-HULL GRAMMAR SCHOOL.** The Corporation of Hull invite APPLICATIONS for the APPOINTMENT of HEAD MASTER of the GRAMMAR SCHOOL, the emoluments of which, independent of School Fees, amount to about 200l. per annum. The School is at present temporarily carried on in the Baker-street Rooms, the rent of which is paid by the Master. The Emoluments and Fees (4 Guineas per annum by the Sons of Burgesses or Freemen and 6 Guineas by other Pupils) will be received by the Master, who must provide the necessary Assistant Masters, and defray all expenses in connexion with the carrying on of the School. The number of Scholars at the end of the last term was 90, but this number is capable of considerable increase, the Scholars in 1886 numbering 155. The person appointed will be required to enter upon his duties on the 11th October next. Applicants must be Graduates of one of the Universities of Oxford or Cambridge. The appointment will be determinable by three months' notice on either side, and it may be determined as soon as a scheme for the application of a sum of 50,000l., which has been given to the town for educational purposes, has been settled. Further information may be obtained from the undersigned, to whom applications, stating age and qualifications, with copies or prints of testimonials, must be sent on or before MONDAY, the 19th day of September, 1887, marked "Application for Appointment of Head Master Grammar School." H. HILL DAWE, Town Clerk. Town Hall, Hull, 12th August, 1887.

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## UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN.

SESSION 1887-88.

Chancellor—DUKE OF RICHMOND AND GORDON, K.G. D.C.L.

Lord Rector—ALEXANDER BAIN, LL.D.

Vice-Chancellor and Principal—WILLIAM DUGUID GEDDES, LL.D.

## I.—FACULTY OF ARTS.

THE SESSION commences on WEDNESDAY, the 26th October, 1887, and closes on SATURDAY, 31st March, 1888.

| CLASSES.                                 | PROFESSORS.                                  | HOURS.  | CLASS FEES. |
|--|--|---|-------------|
| GREEK, JUNIOR .....                      | Prof. HARROWER, M.A., and Assistant .....    | 9 to 10 A.M., and 11 A.M. to 12 P.M.  | £3 3 0      |
| GREEK, SENIOR .....                      | Prof. HARROWER, M.A., and Assistant .....    | 10 to 11 A.M., and 12 P.M. to 1 P.M.  | 2 2 0       |
| LATIN, JUNIOR .....                      | Prof. RAMSAY, M.A., and Assistant .....      | 11 A.M. to 12 P.M.  | 3 3 0       |
| LATIN, SENIOR .....                      | Prof. RAMSAY, M.A., and Assistant .....      | 12 P.M. to 1 P.M.   | 2 2 0       |
| ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION .....   | Prof. MISTO, M.A. ....                       | 12 to 1 P.M. on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday .....                               | 1 1 0       |
| LOGIC .....                              | Prof. MISTO, M.A. ....                       | 11 A.M. to 12 P.M. on Tuesday and Thursday; 12 to 1 P.M. daily .....              | 3 3 0       |
| MATHEMATICS, JUNIOR .....                | Prof. PIRIE, M.A., and Assistant .....       | 9 to 10 A.M., or 11 A.M. to 12 P.M.; and 12 to 1 P.M. ....                        | 2 2 0       |
| MATHEMATICS, SENIOR .....                | Prof. PIRIE, M.A., and Assistant .....       | 10 to 11 A.M. ....  | 3 3 0       |
| NATURAL PHILOSOPHY, JUNIOR .....         | Prof. NIVEN, M.A. D.Sc., and Assistant ..... | 9 to 10 A.M. daily; 11 A.M. to 12 P.M. on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday .....     | 3 3 0       |
| NATURAL PHILOSOPHY, SENIOR, Div. I. .... | Prof. NIVEN, M.A. D.Sc., and Assistant ..... | 10 to 11 A.M. on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday .....                              | 1 1 0       |
| DO. DO. Div. II. ....                    | Prof. NIVEN, M.A. D.Sc., and Assistant ..... | 10 to 11 A.M. daily .....   | 2 2 0       |
| DO. PRACTICAL CLASS .....                | Prof. NIVEN, M.A. D.Sc., and Assistant ..... | 11 A.M. to 12 P.M. on Tuesdays and Thursdays .....                                | 3 3 0       |
| MORAL PHILOSOPHY .....                   | Prof. FIFE, M.A. ....                        | 9 to 10 A.M. daily, and 11 A.M. to 12 P.M. on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday ..... | 3 3 0       |
| NATURAL HISTORY .....                    | Prof. ALLEYNE NICHOLSON, M.D. P.S. ....      | 2 to 3 P.M. ....  | 3 3 0       |

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The Bursary Competition will begin on THURSDAY, the 13th October, at 2 P.M., when there will be offered 50 Bursaries, varying from 35s. to 10s. of yearly value. Of Bursaries under private patronage, 13 were vacant at close of last session, varying from 40s. to 10s. of yearly value.

Books of the value of 13s. are awarded to the Students most distinguished in the Class Examinations. At the close of the Curriculum 8 Money Prizes, varying from 65s. to 5s., besides Medals, are awarded to the best Scholars in the several departments.

## II.—FACULTY OF MEDICINE.

WINTER SESSION, commencing on WEDNESDAY, 19th October, 1887.

| CLASSES.  | PROFESSORS.   | HOURS.               | CLASS FEES. |
|---|---|----------------------|-------------|
| ANATOMY .....   | Professor STRUTHERS, M.D. ....                      | 9 A.M.               | £3 3 0      |
| PRACTICAL ANATOMY AND DEMONSTRATIONS .....              | Professor STRUTHERS, M.D., and Assistant .....      | (9 to 4 and 11 A.M.) | 2 2 0       |
| CHEMISTRY .....   | Professor BRADSHAW, F.C.S. ....                     | 2 P.M.               | 3 3 0       |
| INSTITUTES OF MEDICINE .....                            | Professor M'WILLIAM, M.D. ....                      | 3 P.M.               | 3 3 0       |
| SURGERY .....   | Professor ALEX. OGSTON, C.M. M.D. ....              | 10 A.M.              | 3 3 0       |
| PRACTICAL SURGERY .....                                 | Professor ALEX. OGSTON, C.M. M.D. ....              | 5 P.M.               | 3 3 0       |
| PRACTICE OF MEDICINE .....                              | Professor SMITH SHAND, M.D. ....                    | 5 P.M.               | 3 3 0       |
| MIDWIFERY AND DISEASES OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN .....      | Professor STEPHENSON, M.D. F.R.C.S.E. ....          | 4 P.M.               | 3 3 0       |
| NATURAL HISTORY .....                                   | Professor ALLEYNE NICHOLSON, M.D. D.Sc. F.L.S. .... | 2 P.M.               | 3 3 0       |
| MATERIA MEDICA .....                                    | Professor THEODORE CASB, M.D. ....                  | 4 P.M.               | 3 3 0       |
| PRACTICAL PHYSIOLOGY .....                              | Professor M'WILLIAM, M.D. ....                      | —                    | 3 3 0       |
| PATHOLOGICAL ANATOMY (Sir Erasmus Wilson's Chair) ..... | Professor HAMILTON, M.B. F.R.C.S.E. ....            | 9 A.M.               | 3 3 0       |
| PRACTICAL CLASS .....                                   | Professor HAMILTON, M.B. F.R.C.S.E. ....            | 5 P.M.               | 3 3 0       |

SUMMER SESSION, commencing on MONDAY, 23rd April, 1888.

|   |  |                      |       |
|---|--|----------------------|-------|
| BOTANY .....                                      | Professor JAMES W. H. TRAIL, M.A. M.D. F.L.S. .... | 8 A.M.               | 3 3 0 |
| PRACTICAL BOTANY .....                            | Professor JAMES W. H. TRAIL, M.A. M.D. F.L.S. .... | —                    | —     |
| PRACTICAL PHARMACY .....                          | Professor THEODORE CASB, M.D. ....                 | 4 P.M.               | 2 2 0 |
| PRACTICAL ANATOMY AND DEMONSTRATIONS .....        | Professor STRUTHERS, M.D., and Assistant .....     | (9 to 4 and 11 A.M.) | 2 2 0 |
| PRACTICAL CHEMISTRY .....                         | Professor BRADSHAW, F.C.S., and Assistant .....    | 10 to 12 P.M.        | 3 3 0 |
| PRACTICAL PHYSIOLOGY .....                        | Professor M'WILLIAM, M.D. ....                     | 2 P.M.               | 3 3 0 |
| NATURAL HISTORY .....                             | Professor ALLEYNE NICHOLSON, M.D. ....             | 2 P.M.               | 3 3 0 |
| PRACTICAL NATURAL HISTORY .....                   | Professor ALLEYNE NICHOLSON, M.D. ....             | 3 P.M.               | 2 2 0 |
| OPERATIVE SURGERY .....                           | Professor ALEX. OGSTON, C.M. M.D. ....             | 10 A.M.              | 2 2 0 |
| PRACTICAL MIDWIFERY AND GYNECOLOGY .....          | Professor STEPHENSON, M.D. F.R.C.S.E. ....         | 11 A.M.              | 2 2 0 |
| PRACTICAL PATHOLOGICAL ANATOMY .....              | Professor HAMILTON, M.B. ....                      | 11 A.M.              | 3 3 0 |
| MEDICAL LOGIC AND MEDICAL JURISPRUDENCE .....     | Professor MATTHEW HAY, M.D. ....                   | 9 A.M.               | 3 3 0 |
| PRACTICAL MEDICAL JURISPRUDENCE AND HYGIENE ..... | Professor MATTHEW HAY, M.D. ....                   | —                    | 2 2 0 |

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Diseases of the Skin—Dr. GARDEN, Royal Infirmary and Sick Children's Hospital. 1s. 1s.  
Royal Infirmary: Daily, 11 to 1. Perpetual Fee to Hospital Practice, 6s.; or, first year, 3s. 10s.; second year, 3s.  
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Clinical Surgery—Drs. A. OGSTON, OGILVIE WILL, and GARDEN. 3s. 3s. Tuesdays and Fridays, 1 P.M.  
Pathological Demonstrations at the Hospital—Prof. HAMILTON.  
Diseases of Children at Sick Children's Hospital: Daily, at 11 A.M. Hospital Ticket, 1s. 1s. Prof. STEPHENSON and Dr. ROBERT J. GARDEN.  
General Dispensary, and Lying-in and Vaccine Institution: Daily, 10 A.M. Eye Institution: Daily, 2.30 P.M.  
Royal Lunatic Asylum: Physicians—Drs. JAMIESON and REID.  
The Regulations relative to the Curriculum, and the granting of Degrees in Medicine and Surgery, may be had of the Secretary of the Faculty of Medicine.

## BURSARIES.

There will be offered for Competition in this Faculty the following Bursaries:—(1) To Students entering their First Winter Session who have passed all the Subjects imperative for registration in Medicine, Two Bursaries of 20s. each, tenable for Four Years, and the Edinburgh Aberdeenshire Club Exhibition, open to those who have passed through the Arts Classes of the University. And (2) To Students about to commence their Second Winter Session in Medicine, Two of 24s. 10s. each or thereby, and One of 20s. For Subjects of Examination see 'The University Calendar.'

August, 1887.

WM. MILLIGAN, Secretary.

N.B. Further particulars, including information as to Faculties of Divinity and Law, are to be found in 'The University Calendar,' published by A. King & Co., Printers to the University, Aberdeen, price 2s., or 2s. 4d. by post.

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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1887.

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## LITERATURE

*Address to the British Association for the Advancement of Science at Manchester, August 31st, 1887.* By Sir Henry E. Roscoe, M.P., D.C.L., LL.D., F.R.S., President.

A REVIEW of scientific progress during the Victorian era naturally suggested itself as a fit theme for the presidential address at this year's meeting of the British Association. Such a subject, however, was practically the basis of Sir John Lubbock's address when the Association held its own jubilee meeting at York six years ago. Shut out, therefore, from a general retrospect of scientific development, Sir Henry Roscoe confined his view to a survey of the progress effected in a single department of science. The prime object of the address which he delivered last Wednesday evening was to contrast the chemistry of 1837 with the chemistry of 1887. Not that the President attempted anything like a complete panoramic view of the march of chemistry during half a century—such a work would have been laden with details much too wearisome for any but a very technical audience. What he did was rather to fix his hearers' attention upon a few salient features in the movement of chemical thought, and to show how these have affected the advance of the whole science.

It might naturally have been supposed that in a populous centre of industry and commerce like Manchester the President would have dwelt upon applied rather than abstract science. Such, however, was far from being the case. Mindful of his position as representative of a body devoted to the ascertainment of truth and the discovery of natural laws, Sir Henry Roscoe lifted his science far above the level of every-day life. Instead of discoursing on the manufacture of alkali, he offered a dissertation on the atomic theory; and he evidently deemed it more dignified to talk about the conservation of energy than about the preparation of oil of vitriol. It was, in fact, the intellectual conquests of the chemist rather than his industrial achievements—the flowers of chemical science rather than its fruit—that the President submitted to his audience in the brilliant address with which he opened the Manchester session.

But while the development of pure

chemistry formed the staple topic of the address, there were not wanting incidental allusions to matters which come closely home to every one. Thus a reference to the influence which chemistry has exerted upon pathology offered opportunity for noticing the work of the committee appointed to inquire into Pasteur's researches on hydrophobia—a matter in which Sir Henry Roscoe is personally interested, inasmuch as it was he who moved in the House of Commons for the appointment of this committee. On the great question of technical instruction, in which the President, as every one knows, has taken a profound interest, little or nothing was said.

Much of the early part of the address was devoted to the atomic theory—a subject avowedly suggested by the association of Dalton with Manchester. And yet John Dalton was not a Manchester man. But while Cumberland claims him as one of the worthiest of her worthies, the President was fully justified in speaking of Dalton as the "Manchester philosopher," since it was in Manchester that his experimental researches were performed—and performed, be it remembered, with the crudest possible apparatus; it was in Manchester that his views on chemical combination and the atomic constitution of matter were elaborated; and it was to the Literary and Philosophical Society of Manchester that he communicated the results of most of his researches.

In discussing the part which Dalton played in founding the atomic theory it is right to remember that other experimentalists had previously observed that chemical combination takes place in no haphazard fashion, but according to definite proportions; other philosophers, too, had held for ages that matter is made up of indivisible units; but it was the great merit of Dalton to explain the former by the latter, to show that the laws of chemical combination are in harmony with the atomic philosophy. And this he did by the bold assumption that the atoms of different kinds of matter vary in weight. Grant this postulate, and it follows at once that if union takes place between atoms, the proportions in which the elements combine must needs be related to their atomic weights. Dalton, in the course of his investigations, deduced the so-called "law of multiple proportions," and this more, perhaps, than any other discovery elevated chemistry to the dignity of a quantitative science, and brought its phenomena under the rule of weight and measure to an extent and in a way previously unknown.

Eighty years have passed since Thomas Thomson, of Glasgow, published for the first time an account of the Daltonian atomic theory. Dalton himself lived until 1844, and had the satisfaction of seeing his views almost universally accepted. Since his day science has grown bold, and research become refined beyond what the good old Quaker could ever have anticipated. A great part of Sir H. Roscoe's address was occupied in tracing the recent development of our knowledge concerning atoms, especially with regard to their size, their motions, and their mutual relationships.

And here it would have been impossible to avoid a passing reference to the perplexities suggested by the hypothesis known

as "Prout's Law"—a law which, while it approaches near to the truth, seems to stand flatly contradicted by those researches in which the atomic weights have been determined with the rigorous exactitude of modern science. Although we now know that the atomic weights of the elements are not exact multiples of the hydrogen unit, there must surely be some latent reason for their near approximation. "Who is there," asks Sir H. Roscoe, with a becoming confidence in the future of his science, "that doubts that when this Association celebrates its centenary this veil will have been lifted and this occult but fundamental question of atomic philosophy shall have been brought into the clear light of day?"

If the curious observer closely scrutinizes the atomic weights of the chemical elements some interesting relationships will force themselves upon his notice. A few of these were so striking as to arrest attention many years ago. Thus the elements chlorine, bromine, and iodine form a natural little group, with atomic weights neatly related to their physical properties. Döbereiner, Dumas, and some other chemists were long ago interested in such relationships; but it was reserved for Mr. J. A. R. Newlands, some four-and-twenty years back, to call attention to a much wider relationship than anything previously suspected. By writing out a list of the elements in order of their atomic weights Mr. Newlands detected a recurrence of properties at regular intervals, and as every eighth term offered analogies, he provisionally called his generalization the "Law of Octaves." When attention was first directed to this fact its significance was hardly realized, and the relationship was generally regarded as nothing more than a curious numerical coincidence. Time passed, however; other minds were independently directed to the subject, and at length the Law of Octaves, modified and much amplified, emerged as the "Periodic Law." It is the essence of this law that analogous properties are exhibited by elements occurring periodically in the seriation. To Dr. Mendelejeff in Russia, to Dr. Lothar Meyer in Germany, and to Dr. Carnelly in our own country science is indebted for the development of this remarkable relationship. Had the President been less modest he might have advantageously referred to his own researches on the atomic weight of vanadium, which lent remarkable confirmation to the Periodic Law.

It is a curious outcome of this law that the modern chemist is sometimes tempted to rise above the commonplace observer and assume the position of a prophet. Such a result is brought about in this way. In the seriation of the elements certain gaps occur, suggesting the existence of unknown bodies which are required to complete the series. If these gaps be stopped by the discovery of new elements it may be safely predicted that these bodies will possess a definite set of chemical and physical properties answering to their position in the scale. Three recognized gaps have been filled by the discovery of the elements gallium, scandium, and germanium, and it is a noteworthy fact that their properties absolutely agree with those predicted by Mendelejeff.

No chemist taking stock of the present state of his science could afford to overlook

the remarkable work of Mr. Crookes on the phosphorescent spectra of the rare earths when submitted to electric discharge in a high vacuum. Without entering into details it is sufficient to remark that these investigations conspire with the researches of Lockyer and others to revive the old question of the possibly compound nature of the chemical elements. This subject—the resolution of the elements—was ably brought before the Chemical Section a few years ago by Dr. Gladstone, and again last year by Mr. Crookes. Sir Henry Roscoe touched lightly upon it, but, notwithstanding its fascination, was too cautious to follow Mr. Crookes into his ingenious speculations on the possible evolution of the chemical elements from a primordial form of matter—the hypothetical *protyle*.

All these subjects have grown out of a discussion of the atomic philosophy. It is notable that while the atomic theory is connected with the name of Dalton, the modern doctrine of the conservation of energy is indissolubly associated with the name of another Manchester philosopher, Dr. J. P. Joule. At a very early stage in the address Sir Henry Roscoe offered a remarkable tribute of respect to Dr. Joule—who is one of the vice-presidents of the present meeting—going so far as to say that he “would gladly have served as a doorkeeper in any house where Joule, the father of science in Manchester, was enjoying his just pre-eminence”! It is not only the chemist and physicist who realize the value of Joule's work, but every member of the Association, to whatever section he may be attached, must surely be more or less familiar with his classical researches in determining the mechanical equivalent of heat. Exactly forty-four years ago Joule communicated to the Chemical Section of the British Association at Cork his famous determination of this constant. It was with justice that the President acknowledged Dr. Joule as the founder of chemical dynamics, and as the man who laid the basis of the modern department of thermal chemistry.

Connected with this subject are the very interesting questions which the President discussed towards the close of his address, bearing upon the source of animal heat and the origin of muscular power. It is well known that Liebig believed that all food stuffs might be classified as those which are used for maintaining the heat of the body, and those which are needed for repairing muscular waste. Thus he held that the starches and other carbo-hydrated foods were heat producers, while nitrogenous bodies, like albumen, were true flesh formers. Sir Henry Roscoe took occasion to expose the error of such a classification, though it is a classification still sometimes adopted, and showed that non-nitrogenous food not only supplies a source of animal heat, but contributes to the muscular energy of the animal economy.

With reference to agricultural and vegetable chemistry—a subject on which Liebig presented a famous report to the British Association in 1840—the President reminded his hearers that while Liebig was undoubtedly correct in his assumption that plants derive their supply of carbon mainly from the carbonic acid of the surrounding atmosphere, he seems to have been wrong

in his notion that the vegetable nitrogen is obtained from atmospheric ammonia. In fact, the long-continued experiments of Sir J. B. Lawes and Dr. Gilbert seem to show beyond dispute that this source is quite inadequate, and that the plant must either assimilate the free nitrogen of the atmosphere or obtain its supply from azotized matter in the soil. The question is one which has been discussed again and again, and probably the final word upon the subject has not yet been spoken.

In Sir Henry Roscoe's review of the development of organic chemistry the part most generally attractive was that which dealt with the power of the modern chemist to reproduce organic compounds. It is true that we had caught our first glimpse of organic synthesis before the commencement of the Victorian epoch, for it was as far back as 1828 that Wöhler startled the chemical world by his memorable discovery of the artificial production of urea. But for seventeen years Wöhler's famous synthesis stood alone. It was not until 1845 that Kolbe succeeded in preparing acetic acid from its elements; but since that time organic synthesis has become a common event in our laboratories. The philosophical chemist, after well studying the organic molecule, shapes to himself a clear notion of its architecture, and then quietly sets himself to erect a similar fabric. Success has followed success, and fresh bodies, previously found only in the organic world—alkaloids, colouring principles, and so forth—are every day emerging ready-made from the chemical laboratory.

Here a serious question spontaneously arises. If the chemist can thus imitate the action of life and artificially prepare these organic bodies, is he not warranted in hopefully looking forward to the day when he shall advance yet a step further? If, dispensing with the subtle touch of vitality, he can build up organic compounds, may he not hope that by proceeding along the same road he may eventually build up the organism itself?

Such ideas must have crossed the mind of any thoughtful observer who has watched the progress of the chemist in his constructive efforts, unaided by either plant or animal, yet erecting fabrics of pure organic type. Sir Henry Roscoe, however, is not disposed to encourage such speculations. He clearly realizes the wide difference between a chemical compound and an organic structure—a difference so wide that he is disposed to regard it as impassable; at least he admits that the production of living matter from lifeless elements is a problem outside the province of the chemist of the present day. He knows full well that even if a molecule of albumen could be formed, this would be a very different thing from the formation of a particle of protoplasm; the one being organic matter, the other organized matter. Those who fancy that science has in these latter days grown too daring may take comfort now that the President of the British Association has assured them that, whatever others may say or think, he, for one, sees no prospect of the mystery of life coming within the grasp of the chemical philosopher.

*The City of Liverpool: Municipal Archives and Records from A.D. 1700 to the Passing of the Municipal Reform Act, 1835. Extracted and annotated by Sir James A. Picton. (Liverpool, Walsmsley.)*

THE earlier records of Liverpool were dealt with in a volume published about four years ago. The present work only treats of the modern time, but it includes the period during which Liverpool has grown from a small provincial town into one of the great ports of the world. It requires knowledge of a peculiar character to select and annotate extracts from eighteenth century records. They have not the antiquarian charm about them, and we seldom or never come on anything that is entertaining. Yet the history of rapid growth, as Sir James Picton has told it, is as instructive as are the pictures of mediæval life which the papers of our most ancient corporations furnish.

We suppose that there is no one left now who would assert, as so many persons did long after the sweeping measure of 1835, that municipal reform was not needed. It is, however, one thing to admit this, and quite another to maintain that the great Municipal Reform Act was not in some respects an ill-devised measure. Statesmen must give us what they can, and the best possible under adverse political conditions is often very far from being the best. Corruption had become so rampant in many of the old corporations that the people were clamorous and would not wait. We who know more of the history and slow growth of our towns than the men of half a century ago did cannot fail to see some things which ignorance and passion concealed from them. It is obvious that it was a mistake to model all the corporations on the self-same pattern. The cities and boroughs of the North and the South differ much, a great seaport is widely different from a small inland town. It might in many cases have been possible to give as much freedom as the ardent reformers needed without breaking entirely with the past. Sir James Picton is certainly no friend to corruption, nepotism, or any of the other vices which made the old civic government hateful, but he can see that there is another side to the picture. He says, when speaking of the Act of 1835: “With that enactment, just and necessary as it was, the picturesque aspect of our civic institutions came to an end. The independence which they enjoyed became subordinated in a great measure to the central authority, and the quaint traditions of ages were merged in the modern system of utilitarianism.” The quaint traditions of ages should never be lightly sacrificed, but there are times when historic continuity may be purchased at too dear a rate. Bribery is by no means a thing of the past as yet, but the most corrupt of our modern constituencies seems pure when we compare it with the Liverpool of former days. At the contest of 1827, which lasted six days, “the votes of the freemen were openly bargained for,” and towards the end the price rose to from 30*l.* to 40*l.* apiece. The contest of 1830 was still more shameless. There is good reason for believing that the election of the mayor was managed in a manner equally indecent. The parliamentary committee which investigated the

Liverpool bribery charges could not conclude their report "without directing the attention of your honourable House to the conduct of freemen in a better class of life, and in good circumstances, who have shown fully as much readiness to take bribes as the poorest and most destitute of their fellow burgesses." We are not sure that there was anything beyond an accidental connexion between bribery and a practically despotic common council which was self-elective, that is, filled up the vacancies in its own body as they occurred; but for a much more evil thing than bribery we believe it to have been directly responsible. Had there been freedom of election by outsiders we may feel sure that some at least of the body would have grasped the idea that the African slave trade was a monstrous injustice. Much of the wealth of the town had sprung from that evil source, but all men are not blind to the difference between right and wrong when their own interests are concerned. Sir James Picton says that the first slave ship which sailed from Liverpool was a barque of thirty tons, which carried only fifteen slaves across the Atlantic. "In 1771 105 slave ships sailed from Liverpool, and carried to the West Indies 28,200 negro slaves." It is just a hundred years since the first petition against the slave trade was presented to Parliament. Though to the ordinary careless man of the time such a document must have seemed obscure and harmless enough, the Liverpool Common Council at once showed signs of fear, and drew up a counter petition which must always have a certain historical value, emanating as it did from a body many members of which were not only religious men of exemplary lives, but persons who held high notions of the duty we owe to our suffering fellow creatures. They state, without the least sense of shame, a fact which is now sometimes called in question, that "the African slave trade.....for a long series of years has constituted, and still continues to form, a very extensive branch of the commerce of Liverpool, and in effect gives strength and energy to the whole." In the year 1800 the Common Council presented the Duke of Clarence (William IV.) with the freedom of their town in a gold box as a testimony of gratitude for his exertions in Parliament in favour of this traffic.

Though the chief historical interest of Sir James Picton's compilation is the picture which it gives of the steady growth of an important city, there are scattered through his pages morsels of information on various subjects which will interest readers of far different kinds. Conditions are so changed that it requires an effort to make ourselves believe that it took six days for the news of Queen Anne's death to reach Liverpool. The corporation fought a long battle with the strangers who from time to time settled in the town and worked at their trades without being freemen of the borough. In 1710 we have several weavers, a joiner, a clockmaker, a dyer, an upholsterer, and two translators presented for this offence. Sir James Picton interprets "translator" literally, and remarks that "the idea that persons could not be allowed to translate a document without being a freeman is somewhat grotesque." There is no doubt that these men were cobblers, not persons learned in foreign tongues. In 1715 there was at

Boston a company of "cobblers and translators," which petitioned that persons, not being freemen of the borough, who exercised their trade should be restrained. Tom Brown, the humourist, uses the word in this sense—"The cobbler is affronted if you do not call him Mr. Translator"; and we are certain other authorities might be given for this singular misapplication.

*Histoire d'une Grande Dame au XVIII<sup>e</sup> Siècle:  
La Princesse Hélène de Ligne. Par Lucien  
Perey. (Paris, Calmann Lévy.)*

In 'Mes Écart,' written about the year 1756, Prince de Ligne, himself the most dreary of memoir manufacturers, observes: "Twenty years ago women could not spell, now I know ten or twelve Sévigné's. They are only too clever. They must be suppressed." A warrant for his criticism appears in the journal that his future daughter-in-law, Princess Hélène Massalska, commenced in her eleventh year. It purports to be the record of her school life at the Abbaye-aux-Bois from 1772 to 1779, and it seems to be not only too clever, but also too imaginative. M. Perey, however, whose historical labours have more than once received the honours of the Academy, has searched Belgian, Swiss, and French archives, and satisfied himself of the credibility of his prize. He claims for it the merit of illustrating the evolution of the *grande dame* in the days of her political and social supremacy.

Hélène and Xavier were the orphan children of Prince—Massalski and of his wife, a sister of Prince Charles Radziwill. Their paternal grandfather had been Grand Marshal of Lithuania. Till deprived of that office he and his younger son, the Bishop of Wilna, had strenuously supported the candidature of Poniatowski. Then the bishop for a while turned patriot and joined the Confederates. Their leader Oginski gained one action over the Russians, to be soon afterwards utterly routed, and on hearing of the disaster the bishop fled to Paris with his young nephew and niece. Having become acquainted with Madame Geoffrin when she visited Warsaw in 1766, he now endeavoured to obtain the restoration of his confiscated estates by means of her influence with Stanislas Augustus. He also threw upon her the charge of the children, and she sent the girl to the Abbaye-aux-Bois. Now this Confederate victory was beyond doubt that of Radziça. According to Rulhières it occurred September 6th, 1771, and not on September 20th, 1768, as M. Perey leads the reader to suppose. Stanislas Leszczynski in 'Le Philosophe Bienfaisant' estimated the subsidized army corps of Poland at 18,000 men, that of Lithuania at 12,000. The Pospolite, or "arrière ban," an unpaid cavalry force, never called out save in time of extreme danger, might, he said, muster 200,000 men. Yet, unless M. Perey errs, these were outnumbered by the private levies of the great seigniors. The Potocki, he assures us, kept a corps 25,000 strong; the Bishop of Wilna paid out of his own purse one of 16,000 men; and Prince Charles Radziwill maintained in his towns and castles "208,000 hommes de troupes régulières." "Nearly 6,000 soldiers" is the number assigned to the latter magnate

by Rulhières. By way of comparison it should be remembered that the forces of the Empress Catherine II. did not exceed 150,000 men of all arms. Rulhières puts Prince Radziwill's revenue at five million livres; M. Perey doubles it.

Considering the dearth of money at that period, the cost of Princess Hélène's education appears enormous. She had private rooms, a nurse, and a maid; her banker was ordered to supply her with thirty thousand livres a year if necessary. It is curious that a similar sum was allotted for the maintenance of her young brother, with his governor, sub-governor, gentleman, and lackey, whilst some years later Prince de Ligne allowed his son on his marriage precisely the same income. Balls and theatricals formed part of the educational routine. Directed by M. Molé, Hélène performed the rôle of Joas in 'Athalie' in an easy conversational style with great success. As Esther she appeared adorned with jewels worth upwards of one hundred thousand écus. These studies were varied with mutinies and barrings-out, clandestine acquaintances with little scullion boys, first communions, and child-marriages. Pupils and instructresses were all of the highest rank and illustrious descent. Unfortunately it is often difficult to reconcile either the princess's statements or her editor's comments with recognized genealogical authorities. Throughout the journal till its conclusion in 1779 Mdle. de Mortemart and Mdle. de Conflans figure as young unmarried *pensionnaires*; yet foot-notes tell us that the former was wedded to the Marquis de Rougé in 1777 (p. 83), whilst the latter "was afterwards the Marquise de Coigny" (p. 166)—not afterwards, but already, affirms Saint Allais, for she became a wife in February, 1775, and was a mother in June, 1778 ('Nob. Univ. de France,' vol. x. p. 41). The "jeune Duchesse de Mortemart," whose house the Polish girl frequented from 1774 to 1779, is another perplexity. Victurnien Jean Marie de Rochehouart was Duc de Mortemart in those days, but we can find no trace of his marriage prior to December 28th, 1782, when Adélaïde Pauline de Cossé Brissac became his wife ('Nob. Univ.' vol. x. p. 464). Claude Antoine Gabriel did not become Duc de Choiseul-Stainville till 1785 ('Nob. Univ.' vol. iv. p. 48); why did his wife style herself Duchesse in 1778 (pp. 143, 166)? Orthographical novelties abound in M. Perey's pages, as "Victorien" instead of Victurnien, "Clérmont Rével" in lieu of Rénel, "Montmorency-Fosseuse" for Fosseux, &c.

Nine defunct abbesses of her convent are enumerated by the princess. Out of these the position of Madame de Richelieu is corroborated in the 'Dict. de la Noblesse' by M. de la Chesnaye de Bois, whilst a Madame Adélaïde de Lannoy may claim to represent one of three sisters of that family who successively governed the establishment in the seventeenth century, though none of them possessed that Christian name. Of the remaining seven ladies (pp. 122, 456) not one has a place in the chronological list of the rulers of the Abbaye-aux-Bois from 1207 to 1744 given in 'Gallia Christiana' (vol. vii. pp. 908, 909, 910). Hence doubts arise regarding the inno-

cent, if Don Juanesque adventure of a M. de Saint-Ange, which is represented as having occurred early in the eighteenth century and during the reign of a Madame de la Trémouille. Still more apocryphal appears the lengthy account of Adélaïde d'Orléans, daughter of the Regent, who is commonly known as the Abbess de Chelles. It is said that after a short novitiate she took her vows and was appointed abbess of the Abbaye-aux-Bois. A monster of cruelty and vice, her barbarous treatment of her nuns necessitated her forcible removal to Chelles, where she was allowed to retain her ecclesiastical rank, though deprived of all authority. Later she was transferred to the Abbaye de St. Antoine de Paris on the same terms. Ultimately, in compliance with her dying request, she was buried at the Abbaye-aux-Bois, and was placed in the chancel under a white marble tomb. Henceforth the apartments she had formerly occupied here were rendered uninhabitable by gory sights and uncanny sounds (pp. 151-158). In contrast to this we may summarize the princess's history as detailed in Saint-Simon and the 'Gallia Christiana' (vol. vii. p. 573). In 1717, at the age of nineteen, she took the habit at Chelles, made her profession there in 1718, and became abbess of the same house in 1719 in succession to Madame de Villars, with whom she had quarrelled. In character and occupation she was everything by turn and nothing long. After she had munificently enlarged and renovated the edifice, she wearied of power, and in 1734 retired to the Benedictine convent of the Madeleine du Tressnel. There, as the Duc de Luynes records, she died of small-pox, and there, according to the *Mercur de France* for March, 1743, was she buried, on the 5th of that month, in the vault which she had previously appointed for her sepulture. The funeral honours were abridged for sanitary reasons. Hence neither in life nor death is there any link to connect her with the Abbaye-aux-Bois. Though the same may be said with regard to Madame de Bourbon Condé, whose malversations and cruelties as abbess of St. Antoine de Paris terminated, as chronicled by Saint-Simon, in her deposition and imprisonment, we may venture to suggest that the Princess Massalska has confused the two royal cousins. If a Winchester boy were not only to assert that Dr. Arnold had been head master of his school, but were also to attribute to him the flagellatory instincts of Dr. Keate, he would be suspected of inaccuracy in other things. It would seem as if the *pensionnaire* of the Abbaye-aux-Bois had made a similar blunder. It is, therefore, scarcely worth while to follow her through the vicissitudes of her married life.

*The Poems of George D. Prentice.* Edited, with a Biographical Sketch, by John James Piatt. (Stock.)

*Cherry Blossoms.* By Greece C. Dutt. (Fisher Unwin.)

THE poems of George D. Prentice, the American writer, were first collected and published with a memoir by Mr. Piatt in 1876, some five years after their author's death, and, after running through several editions, are now republished in this country. The popularity of the editor of

the *New England Review* and of the *Louisville Journal* seems to have invested his poetic work in the eyes of his countrymen with a factitious interest quite apart from its intrinsic merits. Mr. Prentice himself, wit and journalist though he was, seems to have entertained a modest opinion of his achievements in verse, as he persistently refused to bring them out in book form. And to the unbiassed critic, looking merely to results, this opinion showed, on the whole, a wise discrimination. For although Mr. Prentice writes easy and fluent verse, although some of his pieces are sonorous and eloquent in diction, yet it would be difficult to single out a passage, metaphor, or even an epithet, evincing the genuine poetic stamp. Yet, like Mr. Whittier, some of whose early poems appeared in the *New England Review*, Prentice had the good fortune to be born and reared on a farm, and it is surprising that his close and constant contact with nature in childhood did not enrich his fancy with such fresh imagery as the Quaker poet drew from the same source, or such touches as may be found in Bryant, to whom Mr. Piatt compares Prentice, and of whom, indeed, his metres frequently remind us. But the fact is that the indefatigable editor lived far too much in the whirl and excitement of politics during his manhood to have leisure for reaping the "harvest of a quiet eye." On the other hand, although George Prentice lived through the great American conflict, and was an ardent supporter of the cause of the Union in Kentucky, it is strange that no war cry or "drum tap" finds an echo in his verse. Yet during this momentous public struggle his private life also reached an almost tragic climax, being full of the stuff of which such poems as 'Sohrab and Rustum' are made. If not so terrible, Mr. Prentice's situation was sufficiently painful; for his two sons were fighting in the Confederate army, while their father, an ardent supporter of the Federals, was prepared to shoulder his gun as a volunteer home guard during the Confederate occupation of Kentucky. In less than a month Prentice's elder son, Courtland, was killed in battle at Augusta, Ky. "My son is dead," writes his father, "and sometimes I almost fear that my country, too, may perish. I see no palm-tree upon the desert that surrounds me." The poem which the father wrote on his son's death falls far short of the tragic pathos of the situation, as the following stanzas may show:—

Dear Courtland, thou the strong, the brave,  
Fillest a warrior's bloody grave;  
The soil above thee, wet with showers,  
Gives birth to sweet and beauteous flowers;  
But e'en the white rose to my view  
Bears in its vein a crimson hue,  
As if its mournful essence came  
From the red death-wounds of thy frame.  
Thou sleepest well! The bugle note  
Of battle may above thee float;  
The tramp of charging hosts around  
May like an earthquake shake the ground;  
The cannon's voice, the victor's shout,  
May through the sulphurous air peal out;  
But thou wilt sleep amid the roar—  
No power but God's can wake thee more.

Mr. Prentice is at his best in blank verse; and although wanting in modulation and variety of pause and rhythm, yet in the treatment of that misleading metre, which seems the easiest, and in point of fact is the most difficult, he may be said to surpass

Mr. Whittier and to rival Bryant. 'My Mother,' 'The River in the Mammoth Cave,' 'The Stars,' and 'The Flight of Years' are some of his poems in blank verse, the most noticeable and popular of them being an address to 'The Closing Year.' Although somewhat "mouthy," it possesses considerable power and impressiveness; but should not poets now dispense with the venerable, but well-worn symbols of the scythe and hour-glass as inevitable attributes of Time?

The sonnets and poems published under the inappropriate title of 'Cherry Blossoms' possess a distinct, if somewhat adventitious claim on our attention. It will be remembered that some years ago a volume of poems by Toru Dutt, which was edited by Mr. Gosse, attracted considerable attention. The poems possessed marked qualities of their own, and as the work of a Hindu lady they were really marvellous. Unfortunately the gifted young poetess, who showed even greater aptitude in her mastery of the French language, died still quite young, like so many other literary prodigies, leaving it doubtful whether her poetic gift would have matured or died out with time, for it is not always the earliest blossom that bears the best fruit. At any rate, the interest still attaching to the young Hindu poetess lends some reflected lustre to the work of Mr. Greece C. Dutt, a member of the same accomplished family. Mr. Dutt's verse proves that he has made himself complete master of English; if he fails in other requisites, it is because a poet is born and not made. To say the least it was surely a daring attempt on Mr. Dutt's part to write no fewer than seventy sonnets! He should have remembered that though it is easy enough to sit down and indite the orthodox fourteen lines with the appropriate number of feet and rhymes, it is quite another thing to produce the complex and subtly balanced whole. As a specimen of Mr. Dutt's work in this form we may quote a sonnet on the flora of the Himalayas, where the Miltonic reminiscences, however, seem rather out of place:—

On Teesta's slopes bloom flowers of every clime.  
The golden cistus and the "rath primrose,"  
The dainty crocus, white as Alpine snows,  
The azure eyebright and the fragrant thyme,  
Daisies as pure as stars in autumn prime;  
And wild musk-roses whose soft leaves expose  
A lovelier crimson than the blush that glows  
At early morn on Kanchun's crest sublime;  
Blue speedwells, and laburnums burning red,  
And lilies proud, brimful of chaste disdain,  
And pansies barred with lines of blackest dye,  
And kingcups tender as the evening sky,  
And snowdrops pale, "that hang the pensive head"  
Lowly and meek as weeping Madeleine.

Mr. Dutt can see well with the eyes of other poets, but not with his own; he gives no vivid descriptions of the unhackneyed scenery of India, but succeeds better in touching on what is peculiarly characteristic of English landscape, as when he speaks of "gigantic trees, haunted for ages by the social rook." The following lines possess a distinct charm and music, but then are they not an unmistakable echo of 'In Memoriam'?

The stars are dim, the moon shines cold,  
A gentle breeze sweeps o'er the lea,  
And softly falls the rippling sea,  
On jutting reef and headland bold.  
The chaffinch, eldest child of May,  
Impatient in his nest awakes,  
And with his nestling pinion shakes,  
The dew that gems the hawthorn spray.

By mountain paths to pastures new,  
The lonely shepherd leads his flock,  
Light wreaths of mist on stream and rock,  
Spread filmy veils of softest blue.

O ye, who through the slow-paced night,  
Have watched and wept, lift up your eyes,  
Soon shall the golden morning rise,  
And crown the eastern hills with light.

*Rhodes in Modern Times.* By Cecil Torr, M.A. (Cambridge, University Press.)

HAVING in a former volume treated with great minuteness of detail the history of the island of Rhodes until it became a Roman province, Mr. Torr now proceeds to discuss the historical and social importance of that island prior to its absorption into the Ottoman Empire. There are many points which justify Mr. Torr in having chosen this island for a minute special study. Rhodes under the dominion of the Knights of St. John offered one of the most effectual barriers to the Turkish advance when the safety of Western Europe was in jeopardy; for the Sultan was obliged to abandon a scheme for the invasion of Italy in 1522 to direct all his forces against the maritime fortress which the Knights so bravely defended, and thereby contributed as much towards the check of the Mussulmans as the victories before Vienna and the Spanish triumph over the Moors.

Furthermore, the many details Mr. Torr places before us concerning the social life and laws of the Knights, culled from their conveyances and *stabilimenta*, give a charming picture of mediæval life in one of its most interesting forms. Their hospital for the sick was conducted much as a hospital would be now: the physicians in attendance were bound to visit their patients at least twice every day, two surgeons for operations were constantly maintained, and the patients received the liberal diet of "cocks and hens and bread and wine."

The procedure of the courts of justice was most exemplary, and the Knights in their capacity of soldiers of the Cross were stringently forbidden to dabble in commerce, and every ship armed at Rhodes without a proper licence was confiscated. In spite of these laws, however, ugly stories were current that the Knights would occasionally indulge in piracy, and dress themselves in Turkish garb to plunder Venetian traders and escape detection.

Points Mr. Torr has collected from these *stabilimenta* form interesting parallels to the life in Rhodes at the present day; the merchants had their warehouses on the ground floor, the *domus bassa*, above which were the dwelling-houses, the *domus alta*, such as is invariably the case now, the lower floors being entirely abandoned to shops and commerce. The love songs and ditties of the Greek peasants in the days of the Knights were exactly the same as those of the Greek peasants of to-day—delight in nature and flowers runs through them all. Mr. Torr gives us the following: "As the gardener casteth away the yellow cucumber, and the withered pumpkin, and the decaying melon, even so cast I away my love." A Rhodian swain of to-day will sing, "My love is a fair apple tree, I will climb and gather the sweet fruit"; and in these similes from nature Mr. Torr, doubtless correctly, sees a parallel to the decorations on the so-called Rhodian

plates and their floral patterns. The same spirit is traceable now in their embroideries, their mural decorations, and their songs. All that the Turk has done in these islands and in all the dominions he has conquered is to destroy the leading families and to impoverish the rich; he has let the peasants alone in nearly every instance; he has taught them nothing and untaught them nothing; consequently the Ottoman rule has been the means of preserving for us more of mediæval and ancient life than can be found in any other part of the world. Many of those who were rich in the days of the Knights are represented to-day by people in the humblest walks of life. In the thirteenth century a family by name Gabalas ruled in Rhodes; many descendants of this once powerful house are still to be found in Crete and other islands; and in the island hovels you can still meet families whose names are undoubtedly inherited from the ruling families of Genoese or Venetian origin. In the fourteenth century Rhodes was the refuge of fugitive debtors, and a family, Biliotti by name, absconded from Florence with a considerable sum of money, and on retiring to Rhodes refused to account for the amount in question. This name is still well known on the island.

Mr. Torr confesses that neither he nor any other modern historian has as yet made an exhaustive study of the history of the Knights, and that there is a vast amount of material to hand which no historian has waded through. Whenever Mr. Torr has leisure to peruse the documents in the archives of Malta, Spain, and the Vatican which bear on the history of the Knights both at Rhodes and after their migration to Malta, much of interest will be brought to light respecting Englishmen of the order. Mr. Torr tells us that the chief of the English Knights was always responsible for the safety of the coast, a substantial recognition of our maritime ability even at that early period; and when the Knights were undergoing their memorable siege, a vessel from England was dispatched to their assistance, which was, unfortunately, lost with all hands off the British coast. From another document Mr. Torr has found that a devout English lady who chanced to be at Rhodes on a pilgrimage in 1320 took a leading part in the slaughter of some infidel prisoners. We look forward to learning more about these eccentric ancestors of ours, pioneers in the love of travel, in whose footsteps so many now are following.

*La Bibliothèque du Vatican au XV<sup>e</sup> Siècle.*  
Par Eugène Müntz et Paul Fabre. (Paris, Thorin.)

M. MÜNTZ has added another volume to the contributions which have already done so much to give us an accurate knowledge of the growth of humanism at the Papal Court in the palmy days of Papal patronage. Hitherto he has dealt with art; in the present volume he turns to the field of literature, and will rejoice bibliographers by the light which he throws on the history of the Vatican Library as much as he will profit the historians of the Renaissance by his accurate account of many details respecting some of the chief heroes of the revival of letters. As in his

previous works, M. Müntz's labours are confined to the publication of documents from the Roman archives, but he accompanies these documents by a well-written commentary which summarizes their chief points. His book is at once adapted to the general reader, who will find it easily intelligible, and to the special student, who may use it as a quarry for independent research.

The main interest of the documents which M. Müntz has brought together is the information which they contain about the literary undertakings of the Papacy after its restoration by Martin V. in 1419. At that time all the Papal possessions were scattered; the Papal manuscripts and papers were chiefly at Avignon, for Rome had not yet been definitely recognized as the home of the Papacy. Martin V. had enough to do in other matters, and had not much time for literature. It was long believed that he brought the Papal library from Avignon to Rome; but this was not so. He only sent for a few service books, valuable for their binding and setting, and two volumes chosen for their usefulness, the 'Catholicum' and the 'Speculum Historie.' It was left for Eugenius IV. in 1441 to find a home for some of the treasures of Avignon, though only a small portion of them passed into the Vatican. Eugenius IV., though not a humanist, was a learned theologian, and the Council of Florence gave an impulse to the collection of books on a more liberal scale. At his death the Vatican Library contained 340 volumes, chiefly of theology, canon law, and philosophy, but with a few classical authors and some of the grammatical treatises of the humanists. The result of the documents published by M. Müntz is to set the character of Eugenius IV. distinctly higher, and to show that he was not merely a narrow-minded monk, as he is generally represented. Not only did he restore the Vatican Library, but he allowed a too liberal use to be made of its treasures. A brief of Sixtus IV. tells us that many books were borrowed in the days of Eugenius IV. and were not restored. It would seem that Eugenius had too great confidence in the good intentions of scholars, and, though he could collect a library, did not advance to the consideration of its preservation.

It is curious to note that the intercourse of Eugenius IV. with learned Greeks at Florence did not lead him to collect Greek manuscripts, nor did it lead the Medici in that direction. So late as 1464 the Medicean library did not contain a single Greek manuscript, and Eugenius IV. only possessed two—one a Boethius, in Latin and Greek, the other a Psalter, "partim in Latino, partim in Græco." This is a proof that the immediate influence of the Council of Florence on the progress of Greek scholarship has been greatly exaggerated. The advance of Greek learning was greatly owing to the scholarly mind of Nicolas V., who spared no pains to fill up the deficiencies of the Vatican Library. His relations with the great Florentine bookseller Vespasiano da Bisticci are told by Vespasiano himself. He deliberately chose the books which he wanted, and employed an army of copyists to do his bidding. The result of the eight years of his pontificate was that the contents of the Vatican Library were raised to

824 volumes in Latin and 400 in Greek. In Latin books it equalled any library then existing in Europe, and in Greek books it far surpassed all its rivals. Here, as in all else pertaining to the designs of Nicolas V., we find the distinction of a really fine mind. His plans were well considered, and were executed with promptitude and decision. Moreover, Nicolas V. formed a library which was becoming to his office. It was eminently a theological library, and took no account of profane literature or of books written in any languages save Latin and Greek.

The fiery Spaniard Calixtus III. was unpopular in Rome through his excessive preference for his own countrymen. He was not interested in carrying on the work of Nicolas V., but gave all his attention to a plan for a crusade. He has been accused of dispersing the literary treasures of Nicolas V., but the documents published by M. Müntz clear him from this charge, and show us the value to be attached to the gossip of the time. Calixtus III. did not care about the humanists, and their one form of retort was to accuse him of being a barbarian and selling his predecessor's library. The charge is as false as the similar charge brought by Platina against Paul II. M. Müntz shows that the catalogue of Nicolas V.'s library was made for Calixtus III.; that Calixtus III. used the library himself; that he only gave away four books of small importance; and that the sole grounds of complaint against him are that he allowed Bessarion to take out eight volumes at once, and still more incautiously allowed Cardinal Isidore of Russia to borrow fifty volumes for the period of his life. No doubt this was a rash proceeding, but it did not amount to a deliberate dispersion of the library, which did not in reality suffer at his hands.

Pius II. followed a line of his own in the matter of books; he formed a private library and bequeathed it to his own family, from whom it was acquired for the Vatican by Clement XI. in the eighteenth century. The literary qualities of Pius II. are sufficiently known from other sources; but it is curious to see how little he was affected by the memories of Rome or the traditions of his office. He never merged the Siennese in the Roman, nor even the Piccolomini in the Pope. Paul II. was interested in art rather than literature, though he highly appreciated the discovery of printing. Anyhow the records of the Vatican Library have little to say of him.

The work of Nicolas V. was resumed in literature as in architecture by Sixtus IV., who brought indomitable energy to everything that he undertook. At his death in 1484 the Vatican Library contained 3,650 volumes, in print or manuscript, and was by far the most important library in Europe. Moreover Sixtus IV. set on foot a scheme for the organization of his library. In 1475 he made Platina librarian, and a new epoch in the history of libraries began. M. Müntz prints Platina's account book, from which the varied nature of his duties can be seen. He had to buy books, send out copyists, procure skins for binding, and, in fact, supervise every detail of a book's production as well as its use. The books were arranged in four rooms: the first, open to the public, contained Latin books; then came the Greek room; then the reserved

books, perhaps distinguished by the richness of their binding; finally, the room in which were kept the Papal archives. Platina began a definite alphabetical catalogue for the use of readers, and also undertook the cataloguing of the archives. He further supervised the reading-room, in which the books were chained and open for the public use. The notice to readers smacks of the directness of Sixtus IV. :—

"Ne quis in bibliotheca cum altero contentiose loquatur et obstrepat, neve de loco ad locum iturus scamna transcendat et pedibus conterat; utque libros claudat et in locum percommodere reponat. Ubique volet perlegerit. Secus qui fagit foras cum ignominia mittetur atque hujusce loci aditu deinceps arcebitur."

Platina's accounts show that the reading-room was well warmed, and that the comfort of readers was carefully attended to. Moreover books were lent at Platina's discretion to cardinals, scholars, and even to strangers passing through Rome. The register of books lent opens as follows :—

"Quisquis es qui tuum nomen hic inscribis ob acceptos commodo libros e bibliotheca pontificis, scito te indignationem ejus et execrationem incursum nisi peropportune integros reddideris. Hoc tibi denuntiat Platyna S. sue bibliothecarius."

A glance through this curious register is full of interest, and shows us a genial and kindly librarian who knew the men whom he could trust, and exercised a large discretion at once liberally and prudently. We see enough to account for the great popularity of Sixtus IV. amongst men of letters. He certainly supplied them with a splendid means of pursuing their studies, and placed it at their disposal with careful munificence. He did this without seeking for popularity. The theological character of the Papal library was maintained by him as it had been established by Nicolas V. It was a collection of books for students, and every pains was taken to make it available for their use.

With Sixtus IV. the records in M. Müntz's volume practically end. Neither Innocent VIII. nor Alexander VI. appears as a benefactor of the library. Innocent VIII. was too indolent; Alexander VI. was too busy with politics. M. Müntz does not aim at writing a history of the Vatican Library. Its fortunes before 1420 have been traced by M. Delisle, and its subsequent history by Signor Rossi. All that M. Müntz has done is to publish and annotate the documents which relate to the period of which he has made such a faithful study. One of the results of his investigations is certainly to set Sixtus IV. on a higher level than he occupied before, and to show that Platina, though he might be venomous as a man of letters, was a capable official and an excellent librarian.

*The Book of Ballymote: a Collection of Pieces (Prose and Verse) in the Irish Language. Now for the First Time published from the Original Manuscript in the Library of the Royal Irish Academy. With Introduction, &c., by Robert Atkinson, LL.D. (Dublin, Royal Irish Academy House.)*

THE manuscript known as the 'Book of Ballymote' is a substantial and impressive monument of the ancient native literature of Ireland. In dimensions and extent the book

is the largest of the old Irish codices which have come down to us. The contents are in Irish, interspersed with Latin, and copied from older writings. The volume is written throughout in bold and solid Irish characters, mostly in double columns, decorated with ornamental initial letters, some of which are coloured and of large proportions. The entire book, as now surviving, consists of 251 leaves of strong vellum of very large size. An inscription on the present p. 106 indicates that portion of the book was written about A.D. 1400, in the mansion of Mac Donogh, lord of Corran, in the district now known as the county of Sligo, in which stood the town of Baile an mhuta, or Ballymote, whence the book is named. From other marginal entries we learn that the principal scribes engaged in the production of the manuscript were members of the families of O'Droma and O'Duigenan. In the volume before us so much of the 'Book of Ballymote' as now exists is reproduced in black and white photo-lithography, to which are prefixed in English an introduction of two pages and a half, a table of contents occupying fourteen pages, and an index to the initial line of each piece in the book. Notices of the historical and philological value and peculiarities of the manuscript, of the brachygraphic system adopted by its scribes, and of the style of the decoration, might with advantage have been included in the introduction. Reproductions of specimen pages in colours would also have been acceptable. It may be mentioned that a series of the coloured ornamental letters and one of the decorated pages of the book appeared in the third part of the 'Facsimiles of National Manuscripts of Ireland,' published in 1879.

The original initial leaf of the 'Book of Ballymote' is missing, and the volume now opens with the 'Book of Conquests of Erin,' commencing with an account of the posterity of Noah, and chronicling the various invasions and monarchs of Ireland. This is followed by King 'Cormac's Instructions to his Son'; genealogies; the tract of Nennius; Biblical, hagiological, and historical pieces, excerpts from the 'Book of Glendaloch'; legends; 'Leabhar na g-Ceart,' or the 'Book of Rights'; names of famous women; treatises on metres, bardic orders, Ogham or occult writing, with diagrams; 'book of primers'; legal and topographical pieces; the destruction of Troy from Virgil and Dares; the wanderings of Ulysses; epitome of the *Æneid*; and, in conclusion, the life, exploits, and character of Alexander the Great.

Of some of the pieces in the 'Book of Ballymote' preferable texts exist in the Irish manuscript known as the 'Book of Lecan,' and a few of those, with collations from both volumes, have been during the last thirty years printed by the Irish Archaeological and Celtic Societies of Dublin. The principal excerpts thus published were the history by Nennius, the 'Book of Rights,' and an account of the tribes of the district in the county of Cork anciently known as Corca Laidhe or the O'Driscoll's country. The treatise on Ogham writing has also been edited; and Prof. Kuno Meyer has published a text of the account of Ulysses. The great body of the contents of the 'Book of Ballymote,' however, still remains un-

translated, and consequently unintelligible to those who are not conversant with the old Irish language.

From an entry in the manuscript we learn that it was sold by the chief Mac Donogh, in 1522, to O'Donnell, Prince of Tirconnell, in Ulster, for one hundred and forty milch cows. "We now," according to the introduction, "lose sight of it [the 'Book of Ballymote'] for more than a century.....In the beginning of the eighteenth century it was in the library of Trinity College, Dublin." The following details, apparently unknown to the author of the introduction, will, however, go far towards supplying the history of the manuscript in the seventeenth century. That the 'Book of Ballymote' was, early in that century, either in the library of Trinity College, Dublin, or in that of Archbishop Ussher, may be assumed from the circumstance that the latter, in his 'Britannicarum Ecclesiarum Antiquitates,' first printed at Dublin in 1639, makes special mention of this manuscript, and refers to that portion of its contents in which St. Patrick's disciple, Benen or Benignus, represents the Apostle of Ireland as bestowing his benedictions on the king and people of Dublin. Ussher, who does not seem to have been acquainted with the old Irish language, in which the production ascribed to Benignus is written, omits to state to whom he was indebted for his knowledge of that piece. This, however, is brought to light by a paper extant among Ussher's manuscripts in the library of Trinity College, Dublin, which contains the portion of the work of Benignus referred to, copied in Irish from the 'Book of Ballymote,' and translated into Latin by John Kelly, who became a Fellow of Trinity College in 1618. The Irish extract and the Latin version of it are authenticated by the signatures of Kelly, with the following statement by him: "Hæc decerpta sunt ex antiquis et authenticis Hybernice manuscriptis libris ad verbum, nimirum ex vetusto codice quem appellant Librum Ballimotensem. Et habetur fol. 153, col. 2." On reference to the reproduction of the manuscript the portion which Kelly copied and Latinized will be found at the page thus indicated by him.

"The Book of Ballimote in Irish" is included in a catalogue of the manuscripts of Trinity College, Dublin, compiled towards 1680; and it was referred to by Edward Lhuyd in his 'Archæologia Britannica,' printed in 1707. Some years subsequently the book was lent by Trinity College to Dr. Anthony Raymond, Vicar of Trim, in Meath, a friend of Swift, who for a time held the adjacent rectory of Laracor, in that county. Raymond, who is frequently mentioned in the 'Journal to Stella,' projected a work on ancient Irish history, and the Royal Irish Academy possesses English translations from the 'Book of Ballymote' which were made for him by Dermot O'Connor. The latter assumed the pretentious title of "Antiquary of the Kingdom of Ireland," and published by subscription, in 1723, an inaccurate version of Keating's 'Irish History,' in the preface to which he erroneously referred to the 'Book of Ballymote' as "a large folio in fine vellum, written some hundred years ago in Balimore in the county of Meath"; and under this designation it was

mentioned by Bishop Nicholson in his 'Irish Historical Library,' in 1724. A copy of a considerable portion of the 'Book of Ballymote' was made by a transcriber in the county of Dublin in 1728, and no steps appear to have been taken by Trinity College to recover the original. From 1769 to 1785 it was successively in the possession of Thomas O'Dornin, of Drogheda; John Finglas, a weaver of that town; and Chevalier Thomas O'Gorman. Charles O'Connor, author of some Irish historical works, obtained a loan of the manuscript from O'Gorman, and inscribed headings and notes in English and Irish on many of its pages. In 1785 the 'Book of Ballymote' was presented by O'Gorman to the Royal Irish Academy, then recently established, and it is still preserved in the library of that institution. A detailed account of the contents of the manuscript was, for the first time, given in the *Transactions* of the Ibero-Celtic Society, printed at Dublin in 1820, and compiled by Edward O'Reilly, author of a 'Dictionary of the Irish Language,' who designated the volume "a venerable repository of ancient Irish literature." The 'Book of Ballymote' is the fourth of the old Irish manuscript volumes which since 1870 have been reproduced in their entirety. The three preceding it were 'Leabhar na h-Uidhri,' 'Leabhar Breac,' and the 'Book of Leinster.' The issue of these facsimiles has vastly lightened the labours of Celtologists; but it is to be regretted that translations of very few portions of the valuable manuscripts thus rendered generally accessible have hitherto been published.

*Masnavi i Ma'navi, the Spiritual Couplets of Maulana Jalalu'd-din Muhammad-i Rumi.* Translated and abridged by E. H. Whinfield, M.A., late of H.M. Bengal Civil Service. "Oriental Series." (Trübner & Co.)

NEARLY everything in Eastern literature which has real excellence and interest is marred by excessive length; the authors or compilers never remember that the half is better than the whole, and constantly overburden us with repetitions or episodes. Thus the 'Mahābhārata,' in itself one of the most interesting of poems, becomes unreadable on account of its hundred thousand couplets; and so its Persian counterpart, the 'Shāhnāmah,' with its seventy thousand, is equally admired and unread. There is another great Persian poem, the 'Masnavi,' which could hardly have failed to make an impression on the West if it had only been of bearable length; but its 26,000 couplets and its endless repetitions generally deter the boldest reader who would explore it from end to end. Mr. Whinfield has, therefore, done good service in giving us this careful abridgment of its contents; and we hope that not a few venturesome spirits may be led under his guidance to attack the original Persian for themselves. The translation is mainly a prose epitome, but many of the more striking passages are translated literally in prose couplets. Dr. Redhouse some years since translated the entire first book by itself into English verse; but the present volume gives an abridgment of all the six books. Two native commentaries, a Turkish and a Persian one, have been con-

sulted to explain the not infrequent obscure allusions or involved constructions. Our only complaint against the book is its excessive condensation. We should have preferred two volumes instead of one, as we cannot help regretting the absence of many fine passages scattered through the poem, which well deserved to have been retained.

Jalálu'd-dín Muhammad-i Rumi was born at Balkh in A.H. 604 (A.D. 1207); but his father had to leave that city in consequence of having displeased the king, and subsequently settled at Qonya, the old Iconium, whence his son obtained the appellation Rumi. There Jalálu'd-dín grew up and passed his life, his time being chiefly spent in teaching an enthusiastic band of disciples and in writing the 'Masnavi' and the almost equally celebrated 'Diván' of mystical odes; and there he died, A.H. 672 (A.D. 1273), when Dante was still a child.

Mr. Whinfield remarks that "the 'Masnavi' may be called the 'Divina Commedia' or 'Paradise Lost' of Islam." No doubt it does hold a similar place of undisputed pre-eminence in the nation's literature, as well from its own real excellence as its peculiar theological importance; but no poems could be more unlike it in literary character. Dante and Milton are unrivalled even in Western poetry for condensed strength and reserve, while Jalálu'd-dín is one of the most diffuse even among Persian writers. Nothing but the genuine outbursts of poetry which startle the reader in the midst of the commonplace could have redeemed his book from oblivion; these oases are so delightful that for their sake we forget the arid waste which we have had to pass through.

The 'Masnavi' is a poem in six cantos, and is a kind of "Théodicée" justifying the ways of God to man. Its central idea is the Súfi doctrine that the only true basis of religion or philosophy is divine love, but it discusses incidentally almost every theological question which interests the Muhammadan world, and it is regarded alike in Turkey, Persia, and India as an authority second only to the Koran and the traditions. It is written in the form of tales which are interwoven like Pilpay's fables or the 'Arabian Nights'; but the story in hand is continually being interrupted by digressions in which the author speaks in his own person and moralizes on every conceivable topic. After a certain length of digression he suddenly pulls himself up and returns for a few lines to the tale; but a casual word is sure to remind him of some remotely connected topic, and he wanders off again and again, to be ever recalled for a time to his theme. It is, indeed, difficult to believe that his mind was perfectly sane, in spite of the real power which he manifests wherever he can control himself and keep at his best; two authors, or rather two natures, seem to be composing the poem, and unfortunately it is the weaker which has indited the larger part.

As to the poet's excellence when he is at his best there can be no question. We may look far and wide in Eastern literature before we find a more striking passage than the following:—

That person one night was crying "O Allah!"  
That his mouth might be sweetened thereby,  
And Satan said to him, "Be quiet, O austere one

How long wilt thou babble, O man of many words?  
No answer comes to thee from nigh the throne,  
How long wilt thou cry 'Allah' with harsh face?  
That person was sad at heart and hung his head,  
And then beheld the prophet Khizr before him in a vision,  
Who said to him, "Ah! thou hast ceased to call on God,  
Wherefore repentest thou of calling on Him?"  
The man said, "The answer 'Here am I' came not,  
Wherefore I fear that I am repulsed from the door."  
Khizr replied to him, "God has given me this command;  
Go to him and say, 'O much tried one,  
Did not I engage thee to do my service?  
Did not I engage thee to call upon me?  
That calling "Allah" of thine was my "Here am I."  
And that pain and longing and ardour of thine my messenger;  
Thy struggles and strivings for assistance  
Were my attractings and originated thy prayer.  
Thy fear and thy love are the covert of my mercy,  
Each "O Lord" of thine contains many a "Here am I.""

We quote the following from the first book as a specimen of the poet's philosophical speculations:—

Discern form from substance as lion from desert,  
Or as sound and speech from the thought they convey.

The sound and speech arise from the thought;  
Thou knowest not where is the Ocean of thought;  
Yet when thou seest fair waves of speech,  
Thou knowest there is a glorious Ocean beneath them.

When waves of thought arise from the Ocean of Wisdom,

They assume the forms of sound and speech.  
These forms of speech are born and die again,  
These waves cast themselves back into the Ocean.  
Form is born of that which is without form,  
And goes again, for "Verily to Him do we return."  
Every moment the world and we are renewed,  
Yet we are ignorant of this renewing for ever and aye.

Life like a stream of water is renewed and renewed,  
Though it wears the appearance of continuity in form.

That seeming continuity arises from its swift renewal,  
As when a single spark\* of fire is whirled round swiftly.

If a single spark be whirled round swiftly  
It seems to the eye a continuous line of fire.  
This apparent extension, owing to the quick motion,  
Demonstrates the rapidity with which it is moved.

The following, from the fourth book, is an interesting anticipation and extension of the theory of evolution:—

First man appeared in the class of inorganic things,  
Next he passed therefrom into that of plants.  
For years he lived as one of the plants,  
Remembering naught of his inorganic state so different;

And when he passed from the vegetative to the animal state,

He had no remembrance of his state as a plant,  
Except the inclination he felt to the world of plants,

Especially at the time of spring and sweet flowers;  
Like the inclination of infants towards their mothers,  
Which know not the cause of their inclination to the breast.

Again, the great Creator, as you know,  
Drew man out of the animal into the human state.  
Thus man passed from one order of nature to another,

Till he became wise and knowing and strong as he is now.

Of his first souls he has now no remembrance,  
And he will be again changed from his present soul.

Jalálu-'d-dín, as might be perhaps expected,  
has little sympathy with humour; but we do occasionally meet with some signs of that grim, saturnine humour which may co-exist with the most immovable gravity. Thus he tells us "an old man once complained to

his physician that he suffered from headache. The physician replied, 'That is caused by old age.' The old man next complained of a defect in his sight, and the physician again told him that his malady was due to old age. The old man went on to say that he suffered from pain in the back, from dyspepsia, from shortness of breath, from nervous debility, from inability to walk, and so on; and the physician replied that each of these ailments was likewise caused by old age. The old man, losing patience, said, 'O fool, know you not that God has ordained a remedy for every malady?' The physician answered, 'Passion and choler are also symptoms of old age.'

Many of the stories are historical or biographical incidents, but many are folk-lore legends. Some come from Pilpay, as, e.g., the lion whom the rabbit tricked into a well; the wise, half-wise, and foolish fishes; and the ass who, after once escaping from the lion's den with impunity, was persuaded by the fox to venture in a second time. Others are less-known stories. Thus one of the stories in the fourth book is the same as the Merchant's Tale in Chaucer; and the Norfolk legend of the chapman of Swaffham Church (told in Blomefield's 'Norfolk') appears in the story of the man of Bagdad who dreamed that a treasure lay hid in a certain place in Egypt, and there met a man who had similarly dreamed that a treasure was to be found in this very man's own house in Bagdad (see p. 322). We have also at p. 304 the story of the three travellers, a Musulman, a Jew, and a Christian, who found some sweetmeats when they arrived at the end of their first day's stage. The Musulman, who had been fasting all day, wanted to eat them at once; but the two others, having already dined, forced him to remain hungry and reserve the meal till the morrow. Next morning when they awoke they agreed to relate their dreams, and that the sweetmeats should be his whose dream was the best. The Jew had dreamed that Moses had carried him up to the top of Mount Sinai; the Christian that Jesus had carried him up to heaven. The Musulman had dreamed that Muhammad had appeared to him in person, and had commended him for his piety and abstinence, and commanded him in reward to eat up these divinely provided sweetmeats, which he had accordingly done. This story is found in John de Bromyard's 'Summa Prædicatorum'; see Benfey's 'Orient und Occident,' iii. 191. But we may notice here, as an instance how Mr. Whinfield's desire of abridgment has caused him to omit interesting details, that in the 'Masnavi' we have immediately afterwards a second version of this jest in the story of the camel, the cow, and the ram (found in a somewhat altered form in the 'Sindibád Námah'; see Mr. Clouston's edition, p. 15), where the camel with his long neck suddenly swoops down on the disputed bundle of grass; but there the jest is only made use of to add a new point to the well-known story of the three oldest animals. Mr. Whinfield, however, passes *pedo siccò* over this second story, and the English reader would have no conception that there was anything omitted.

*Autobiography of a Manchester Cotton Manufacturer.* By H. S. G. (Heywood.)

THE most commonplace life may be made to furnish interesting material for an autobiography if the tale be told with truth and simplicity. The author of the present little work has led a commonplace life, and the record of it, told in a manner generally devoid of art or artifice, is not without an interest and even a certain charm of its own. While still a youth, H. S. G. removed from one of the southern counties, where he had spent his childhood, to Lancashire, and left it thirty years later to commence life afresh at the antipodes, having failed in securing the commercial eminence which seemed at one time well within his grasp. The story of those thirty years of struggle and their various little ups and downs, of his hopes and tastes, his friends and surroundings, if not likely to interest very largely the general public, will, he hopes, interest others besides the friend who induced him to write it, and to whom it is dedicated. The author's first introduction to Lancashire life was in one of the numerous factory villages which approach Manchester so nearly on every side as to have become now in appearance (though it was not so then) little more than an extension of its suburbs. It was in Kearsley, "in those days wild and dreary, with only here and there a house, though mills and collieries abounded." The description of his arrival and first few days amid these ungenial scenes is among the best things in the book. The "extraordinary clatter" made by the wooden clogs of the operatives hastening to their work in the early morning first astonished him, and

"the appearance of the women every now and then, when there was sufficient light to discern them as they passed to and fro, was equally strange. They wore no bonnets or hats. The covering was simply a shawl, with which they first made sure of the protection of the head, the remaining portion of the body being left to the chance of the shawl being capacious or otherwise."

The mill machinery, of course, early arrested his attention, and excited his warm admiration, though after a while not merely did these novel sights and sounds begin to pall, but he became painfully conscious and observant of that fact.

"I had become like a machine—so much so that on arriving at a certain spot on the morning journey to the mill I regularly met, within a few inches of the same place, another machine like myself. He was the same gentleman who travelled with Thornton and myself when I made my first journey to Kearsley. We met here with clock-like regularity for three years, neither of us ever stopping, but content with throwing our respective heads on one side, in the true Lancashire mode of recognition. When it was winter I could not see him, but my quick ear recognized his footstep, being a distinct sound from those of the people encased in the inevitable clog. At a period of thirty-two years from that time, the same gentleman, when I reminded him, on the Manchester Exchange, of those meetings, when a chronometer might have been set for their regularity, startled me by saying, 'I am there now every morning at the same place, at the same time, and have never ceased to be so since the years we used to meet there.'"

It was an agreeable change from the stress and terrible monotony of this existence to become manager of a warehouse in

\* Rather "a series of sparks," i. e., a torch.

Manchester, and afterwards part proprietor of a mill there; and during this portion of his life H. S. G. appears to have developed some artistic tendencies, and to have found the means of gratifying them to a considerable extent. He also, as was natural, made many new friends and acquaintances. He dwells with perhaps a little too much complacency on these side issues of his life, and is annoyingly vague about those matters of more special interest which the reader properly expects to find treated with some fulness, namely, the causes and symptoms of the several trade fluctuations which his business endured, and the outer and inner aspect of business relations generally. One story of Lancashire hospitality at that time, that is, not more than a quarter of a century ago, deserves to be preserved, on account, one would hope, of its singularity not less than of the old-world savour that attaches to it, belonging as it does to such comparatively modern times. H. S. G. was paying a round of visits in the neighbourhood of Manchester, where

"at one of the houses a decanter of wine was placed before me by the host with the intimation that I was to appropriate the whole of it myself. Having never had the capacity of absorbing two glasses of wine consecutively even to this day, I smiled, and was on the point of passing on the decanter, when, in the most commanding and serious tone, I was informed I should have to drink it all myself. Renshaw told me afterwards he trembled for me at that moment, as this particular relative felt insulted if his visitors did not appreciate his hospitality by drinking the wine he placed before them, which was always of the best and oldest vintage to be obtained. Whatever had been the consequences I should have remained resolute in declining the wine. A box of cigars, however, was placed in my hands simultaneously, and as they were small in size and looked mild in flavour, I offered to smoke if I might be relieved from taking the wine. To this he readily assented if I would smoke them all, a feat which I undertook to perform, and thus escaped an unpleasant dilemma. .... When eleven o'clock of that evening had arrived the box contained sixteen cigars less than at the commencement, and I left the house with one in my mouth."

The period covered by the autobiography embraces the Crimean War and the American Civil War, through both the crises attendant on which the author passed, not merely unscathed, but with added prosperity. The four years previous to 1877 were "years of real good business," but from that fatal year the tide turned, and turned at length so decisively that before another three were completed he was selling off his stock and preparing to start for Australia. Towards the end of this time the author meets with friends whose names are so strangely appropriate to their deeds as to raise a suspicion of their genuineness—which is, perhaps, undeserved. The good and amiable Mr. Rareworthy and the upright merchant Mr. Moregood are examples of these curious coincidences. The composition, never brilliant, is in places very slatternly; and on p. 70 there is a complication of past and present tenses that is in its way quite remarkable.

#### NOVELS OF THE WEEK.

*The Treasure of Thorburns.* By Frederick Boyle. 3 vols. (Hurst & Blackett.)  
*Miss Gascoigne.* By Mrs. J. H. Riddell. (Ward & Downey.)

*Alexia.* By E. C. Price. (Bentley & Son.)  
*A Village Tragedy.* By Margaret L. Woods. (Same publishers.)

*Moy O'Brien.* By E. S. Thompson. (Dublin, Gill & Son.)

THE old gentleman in Mr. Boyle's story who sets his heart on digging up a buried treasure in his neighbour's grounds, and who quite needlessly proposes to one young man after another that he should get a spade and come and help him, is a villain after a somewhat novel type. He is an antiquary, and has some reason to think that Thorburn's treasure—which is "the treasure of Thorburns"—consists of antiquarian relics, so that his wicked desire to steal it may be regarded as a blot upon one aspect of his character only. On that side he is really a great villain, for all the world on a level with the unhappy gentlemen at Portsmouth or Dartmoor who have "signed out of their own name," or removed their neighbours' hall-marks. Otherwise he is intended by Mr. Boyle to be a harmless and amiable person. He has a pretty daughter, whom he offers to one of the young men aforesaid on condition of his assistance with the spade. There are sundry incidents and motives and effects described in Mr. Boyle's easy narrative which his readers may have some difficulty in understanding; but one may enjoy a story like 'The Treasure of Thorburns' without sticking for probabilities and consistencies. Perhaps also it might be unsafe to stickle much for style, or even for irreproachable grammar. Mr. Boyle does not write for the fastidious; but he is none the less likely to please a multitude of readers.

Mrs. Riddell's novel is chiefly noticeable for the delicacy which she has shown in handling a peculiar and rather unpromising theme. The love of a woman no longer in her first youth for a boy of twenty is not often made the central episode of a work of fiction, requiring as it does greater skill and sympathy than the generality of writers can bring to bear upon it. 'Miss Gascoigne' is a work of a good deal of negative merit in which neutral tints predominate. Greater prominence might have been given with good results to the sprightly Miss Hume, of whom far too little is seen. On the other hand, readers in general and university men in particular will certainly resent the introduction of Mr. Hoford, in whom elegant scholarship is combined with odious boorishness. His long-delayed discomfiture is one of the most welcome episodes in the story.

In 'Alexia' Miss (?) Price has written a graceful and pleasing little story, the slightness of which appears the result rather of restrained strength than of timidity or feebleness. The characters are all more or less natural and individual, and there is no weariful dissection of motives and manners. Alexia performs the mistaken, but heroic task of dismissing her lover (who is not good enough for her) with unconscious grace and refinement. All ends well. There is nothing very original or striking in the book, but it serves to while away an hour quite pleasantly, and there are touches bespeaking higher possibilities.

'A Village Tragedy' is a story of no common merit. There is character and individuality on every page, and as a whole

it leaves an impression distinct, but the reverse of cheerful. The grey note struck at the outset is steadily sustained, the touch is artistic, the workmanship firm and equal. There is no deliberate viewiness or philosophical reflection, yet there is conveyed a strong feeling of the blindness of destiny and the crushing weight of natural forces. The book is not deliberately cruel—it is touched, indeed, with pathos, tenderness, and some humour; but it may fairly be called unkind, or at least inexorable. For all her personality, the author appears to have studied French masterpieces (and others) only too wisely and well. Still her work is one to be read with interest, for her vein of thought and her method alike are anything but hackneyed. Hers is "the simple story" simply told, and dealing only with elementary feelings and ordinary sentiments, yet she suggests wider horizons and deeper meanings, so that she somehow produces something of the vague sadness inseparable from all large views whether in nature or in morals. The blot on the picture is the introduction of the village idiot—a piece of work which is not only brutal, but unnecessary.

It appears from the announcement prefixed to Miss Thompson's story that it originally appeared in the columns of the *Dublin Weekly Freeman* in 1878-9, and was published in book form in America in the latter year. These dates should be borne in mind in view of the essentially political colouring of the story, and its Home Rule hero and heroine. For the rest 'Moy O'Brien' is in the main the vehicle of a systematic glorification of the Celtic character to the disparagement of the brutal Saxon. The pictures of English aristocrats and English artisans which the book contains are as unflattering as those drawn by any Gallic Anglophobe. There are, indeed, some signal exceptions whom the saving grace of political orthodoxy, as Miss Thompson understands orthodoxy, has regenerated and redeemed from their normal condition of vulgar bluntness or sordid angularity. Amongst these should be noticed the philanthropic Miss Wentworth, who by knitting socks for gentlemen "had put in a church window, and now supported a coffee palace." One of the most trying features in the story is the author's inability to suppress the evidences of her intimate familiarity with contemporary literature. Maurice Davoren, "the Home Rule hero," in his speech to the peasants of Ballyvorna seasons his remarks with allusions to Carlyle and Mrs. Jellaby, Mr. Lecky and Dr. Smiles, while the dialogue abounds with similar quotations, generally introduced thus, "as Mr. Lecky points out," or "as Emerson says." 'Moy O'Brien' is still further disfigured by a pretentious display of essentially feminine and romantic archæology and a good deal of preposterous ethnological speculation. Where, however, the writer quits her political and Celtic hobby-horse she can write gracefully and pleasantly enough. She is evidently a strong believer in the science of physiognomy, to judge from the following quaint sentence: "Mr. McDonnell was a tall man, with the look, some way or other, of a civil engineer."

## HISTORICAL BOOKS.

*The Story of the Nations.*—*Ancient Egypt.* By George Rawlinson, with the Collaboration of Arthur Gilman. (Fisher Unwin.)—Canon Rawlinson's book on 'Ancient Egypt' is a compilation from the works of Egyptologists, whose labours have been laid under heavy contribution without acknowledgment. The purpose that will be served by this book is hard to see, for any person who really wants to know about Egypt will go to the works of Brugsch, Renouf, Birch, and Maspero; and a beginner will be seriously misled by many of Canon Rawlinson's mistakes. For example, his statements about the morals of Egyptian gods on p. 42 are absolutely false. The gods of the Egyptians were the powers of nature, such as different parts of the day and night, the sun, moon, stars, &c., and not beings in the shape of men or having human passions. This fact has been distinctly proved over and over again by Mr. Renouf, and is now accepted without question by Egyptologists who read the hieroglyphics. Also without this luminous explanation the whole of Egyptian mythology is nonsense. Canon Rawlinson is scandalized by Osiris marrying Isis, but there is nothing scandalous in it; we wonder what he thinks of the "god who was the father of his own mother." He is horrified also at Amsu (not Khem, as he has it) being the "Bull of his mother," but all the Egyptian meant was that Amsu was his mother's fine powerful son. There are many texts extant in which a deceased female is called "the Bull of Amenta." Will Canon Rawlinson find anything immoral in this? His statement, too, about the indecency of Egyptian literature is too absurd; really there is less indecency in it than in any other Oriental literature. The fact is that Orientals never considered that anything natural could be indecent. Canon Rawlinson is curiously inaccurate. On p. 7 he quotes Canon Cook's bad translation of the 'Hymn to the Nile,' but makes it worse by writing

Giving life to men by his emen [sic],

instead of

Giving life to men by his oxen.

On p. 54 he quotes Dante's well-known line from 'Inferno,' iii. 51, thus,

Non ragionam [sic] di loro [sic], ma guarda e passi [sic].

instead of

Non ragionam di lor, ma guarda e passa.

Anything more hopelessly wrong than his description of the original home, language, and race of the ancient Egyptians could hardly be found. All the facts known as to their original home go to show that they came from the East; their language has nothing whatever to do with Hebrew or Phœnician, though some words from these dialects have been borrowed by them; and the pure Egyptian had nothing at all nigritic about him. Canon Rawlinson cannot surely have read the *Transactions* of the various Oriental congresses, or he would never write such nonsense. The minor mistakes in Canon Rawlinson's book are legion. We quote a few of them. On p. 30 he writes "Khem" for Amsu, "Netpe" for Nut; on p. 32 "Aahmes" for Ahmes, "Tum" for Atmu; on p. 36 "Apep" for Apepi, and "Savak" for Sebak; on p. 37 "Maut" for Mât. On p. 55 *ta set* (not "ta satu") means smiter of foreign lands, and not "smiter of the nations." On p. 56 he says that *neb mât*, lord of law (not "justice," as he has it), is a rare title for a king, but it is one of the commonest. On p. 64 he has "Mertitep" for Mert-têp; on pp. 82 and 91 "Shafra" (sic) for Châ-f-Râ; on p. 105 and elsewhere "Usurtasen" for Usertsen; on p. 170 "Hasheps" for Hatshepsu. On p. 178, when Hatshepsu called herself *Hat-shepsu xnum Amen*, she meant that she, Hatshepsu, was the "companion, or consort, of Amen," and she had no idea whatever of identifying herself with the gods Chnum and Amen. On p. 217 he has "El-Uksur" for El-Kusur; on p. 223 "Khuenaten" for Khu-

tenaten; on p. 227 "Mi-Harmakhu" for *meri Heru em xufti*; on p. 241 "Pentaour" (sic) for Pentaur. Finally, it has not yet been proved that the Chita are the Hittites, as Canon Rawlinson assumes on p. 234; and we are sorry to see Dr. Stern's good translation of the so-called 'Song of the Harper' turned into such a paraphrase as Canon Rawlinson prints on pp. 26, 27. The chapter upon Menephthah and Moses is sheer imagination, for there is no historical fact at all for it. Canon Rawlinson surely cannot have taken the pains to read any of the modern English, French, or German works on Egyptology; if he has, we very much regret that he has not profited more by them and increased his very elementary knowledge of Egyptology.

*English History by Contemporary Writers.* Edited by Mr. F. York Powell. (Nutt.)—This series of little books is modelled on that which has been successfully brought out in France by the Messrs. Hachette. It aims at giving the student of English history direct access to original and contemporary authorities, "so as to bring him as close as may be to the mind and feelings of the times he is reading about." Two of the volumes, containing from 150 to 200 pages each, are before us. They cover the periods of 'The Misrule of Henry III.' and of 'Edward III. and his Wars.' The former is edited by the Rev. W. H. Hutton, the latter by Mr. W. J. Ashley. The name of the editor of the series is a sufficient guarantee that the work will be both sound and interesting. The volumes consist almost entirely of extracts from original authorities, translated into clear and readable English, with a few, but not too many notes, a short preface, a chronological summary, and a few illustrations. Each extract is headed by a prefatory note, explaining its contents and its general bearing on the history, and the whole together make up a connected narrative. The period 1236-48 embraced by the first volume is not in itself, perhaps, very interesting, but it is an indispensable subject of study if one is to understand the more exciting period which follows, that of Simon de Montfort and the Barons' Wars. The period 1327-60 embraced by the second of the volumes before us needs no apology. Froissart is, of course, the chief contributor, and his vivid descriptions of Orecy and Poictiers and many other scenes of the French wars are embellished by quaint and picturesque reproductions of what appear to be contemporary drawings. We would suggest, by the way, that it would be well to state whence these and other illustrations are taken. We welcome the series as one that is likely to be both interesting and instructive, and as calculated to stimulate in many a youthful mind a love for history and a desire to study it in the right way.

*The Student's History of the English Parliament.* By Dr. Rudolf Gneist. New English Edition by Prof. A. H. Keane. (Grevel & Co.)—We are glad to see that the publishers have brought out a new translation of Dr. Gneist's excellent work 'Das Englische Parlament.' The translator tells us in his preface that "the first English edition of this work having been exhausted, advantage has been taken of the opportunity thus afforded to have a fresh translation prepared and a full index added." We cannot help being sorry for the unfortunate persons who exhausted the first edition, but we are grateful to them for facilitating a second attempt, which is certainly a great improvement on the first. The proofs, we are told, have all passed through the author's hands, so that we may feel pretty safe that his meaning is duly reproduced. It cannot be said that the style of the translation is very brilliant, but it is clear and intelligible, and mistakes seem to be generally avoided, so far as we have examined the work. It is a new idea, by the way, to call Arlotta, the mother of William the Conqueror, the daughter of a "furrier" (Kürschnerstochter). It argues more familiarity

with the dictionary than with history to drop the well-known "tanner" so needlessly. However, Prof. Keane seems to have avoided most of the pitfalls into which his predecessor fell, and we are grateful to him accordingly. We may add that the notes now appear at the foot of the page instead of the end of the chapter—a much more convenient arrangement—and that the index, though somewhat perfunctory, is a considerable assistance to the student.

*Histoire de la Civilisation Française.* Par A. Rambaut. 2 vols. (Paris, Armand Colin.)—Here is another of the excellent summaries which the French are producing in the present day. We had occasion to notice one of far wider scope recently (July 30th, p. 147), and what we said in praise of that remarkable book may be said of this also. M. Rambaut has given us in a compendious form (though 1,200 pages can hardly be called a short book) all the points of interest in the life and thought of France up to the Revolution, with one exception, its military history. Strange to say, that item, which was once the staple of historians, has now been completely thrown into the shade by political, social, and industrial questions. This is quite right. Military history is only really instructive when it is too special for the ordinary reader, and the rhetorical narratives of historians from Livy to our own day only give false and vague impressions, while magnifying unduly a painful feature—a great hindrance in the progress of civilization. The history of France is peculiarly suited to a rational study of modern development. What has happened in England might have happened in France, or *vice versa*; for it is only the proportion of strength in each of the three estates which need be changed to produce the victory of any of them. M. Rambaut rightly thinks that if the nobles and the priests had not deserted the cause of the commons, the whole history of political liberty in France from the fourteenth century onward would have followed a different course (i. 276). He shows, as many have done before him, how the commons were compelled to support the king against the oppressions and exactions of the nobles and clergy, till these orders were completely subjected to the monarchy. At last came the conflict of the people with the Crown, when the nobility and Church, now the slaves and supporters of the king, were overthrown with the Crown. These and the other instructive lessons given to the world as regards political history (especially that of the States General in the fourteenth century) are combined by M. Rambaut with sketches of the progress of the people in arts, letters, and general refinement. A great number of interesting facts are cited in foot-notes, none of which can be found in the professed index which accompanies each volume. When will the French learn the necessity of a proper index to a book crammed full of facts, names, and dates? Here is a little anthology for the reader's amusement. In 1457 a sow was hanged at Savigny for homicide, after the sentence had been duly read out to it by the sheriff (i. 437). In the thirteenth century there came in from England the game of *pourcel*, which consisted in setting a number of blind men with clubs to kill a pig, which was the prize of the man who killed it. The fun was to see the blind men missing the pig and knocking one another down (i. 449). There was a kind of monstrous seal in the high seas called the *marine bishop*, which pronounced the benediction on its victims before devouring them. To come to more recent times, when the Red Republicans—who had massacred king, nobles, and priests, had abolished religion and morality so far as they could, and were exhibiting every coarse violence by way of *nature*—went to see Ducis's reproductions of Shakespeare's plays, the whole *parterre* rose up in indignation at the indecent vulgarity of using the word *mouchoir*, a *mot de roture*, in a high tragedy like 'Othello' (ii. 350). Indeed, the whole history of the

tyranny exercised over the French language by the Academy and the purists, and the list of words to which they objected (ii. 306 sq.), is very interesting; and though they were often absurd in their criticisms, the dictionary of the English language now appearing in parts, where an educated Englishman only recognizes about one in three words, makes many people regret that some censorship of language is not introduced to save our rapidly debasing tongue. It is impossible in any brief sketch to do more than notice these few points, which give no idea of the wealth of facts, and the orderly exposition of them, in M. Rambaut's book. He is certainly inclined to ascribe too much to the French. Not to mention the steam engine, for which he takes credit, he speaks of Canterbury and Lincoln cathedrals as built by French architects. If he had said Lichfield he would have been nearer the truth; but to deny the originality of these splendid churches and to identify them with French Gothic is surely a very superficial view. Still we must not quarrel with the author's patriotism.

*Marie Stuart et la Ligue Catholique Universelle, 1561-67.* Par Martin Philippon. (Brussels, Hayes.)—This short and interesting pamphlet calls attention to facts more than once maintained in these columns, viz., that the biographers of Mary Stuart have too generally allowed the personal interest of her story to shut out from view its political significance; and that the relative positions of Mary and Elizabeth were determined for them by fate rather than by anything in the personal character of either. The questions of religion, of nationality, and of the union of England and Scotland were all closely connected with Elizabeth's title and Mary's pretensions to the English throne. And these again were not mere insular, but European questions, involving matters of high principle in international politics, which required very careful handling—at least by external powers. It was to cut off Mary from all possibility of communicating with the Catholic powers of Europe that the murder of Rizzio was successfully accomplished, and the wretched Darnley befooled into being the abettor (indeed the very instrument) of a crime utterly opposed to his own interests. This fact is already familiar to historical students, and we have now some further illustrations of the international question, chiefly of an earlier date, in the pamphlet before us. At the end are two documents of special interest, printed, apparently for the first time, from MSS. in the British Museum. The first is a despatch from Maitland of Lethington in 1562, giving an account of a conversation with the Spanish ambassador in England as to the possibility of effecting a marriage between Mary Stuart and Don Carlos. The second is a letter from Cecil to Maitland in 1563, declaring his policy for "the satyng of the Gospell of Christ and the dissolution of Antichrist."

#### BOOKS FOR TOURISTS.

MR. BADDELEY'S series of "Thorough Guides" possess the first essentials of successful handbooks. They are well printed, practical, of most convenient size and shape, and, in the case of his *Ireland*, Part I. (Dulau & Co.), furnished with a great number of really admirable maps. But he who claims the title "Thorough" claims much, and, in view of the excellent handbooks already in existence, Mr. Baddeley can scarcely be said to have made good his title. No doubt the narrow limits to which he has most wisely confined himself are responsible for the absence of those literary graces and vivid descriptions which make Murray's 'Ireland' really pleasant reading, and convey to the stay-at-home Englishman a very fair impression of Irish scenery and character; yet by additions of not more than half a dozen pages Mr. Baddeley could have greatly increased the interest and value of part I. For example, his Dublin gives not the faintest idea of the city; we read nothing of that uniform

eighteenth century character which stamps the best part of the town. We are not told that the houses are exceptionally well proportioned, and remarkable for the solidity of their construction, and the rare beauty of ceilings, fireplaces, and doorways. The rich colour of the Dublin brick is also left to the imagination, and one gains no idea of the charm of the quiet, homogeneous, old-fashioned city of red houses and handsome white stone public buildings. The information, too, is somewhat scanty: we are not told which are the best works in the National Gallery, nor that the rooms of the Dublin Society are well worth a visit; nothing is said of the characteristics of Celtic art, nor of the number of students at Trinity College or the Catholic University; and though we are told that the manufacture carried on by Messrs. Guinness & Co. is on a large scale, we do not hear that the company are the largest employers of labour in the city, giving work to about 30,000 hands. The Round Room is curtly dismissed as "famous"—in fact, the historic interest is nearly ignored, and a large number of historic sites are passed over in silence. This is a pity, especially in the case of a country which has comparatively little of artistic interest. In the rural districts, too, the very rare references to history are unsatisfactory. The information as to getting about is excellent, but that as to hotel accommodation is too vague to be of much use to the traveller. Mr. Baddeley has good-naturedly passed over defects of kindly, ill-managed, hospitable, slovenly inns, but he might have been a little more definite in specifying the good houses, and surely in towns of the size of Longford, Ballaghaderreen, &c., it would have been well at least to mention whether there is or is not accommodation for travellers. And without falling into political pitfalls he might have given a certain amount of non-controversial information respecting the acreage of the various counties; the nature of the soil; the proportions of arable, pasture, improvable waste, and bog lands; the average size of holdings; the population at the last two or three censuses; the emigration returns; the main trades and industries of the towns; the number of Catholics, Anglicans, and Presbyterians; and the parliamentary returns at the last election. Such information may be conveyed in a few words, and is of the first interest to tourists visiting a country which is attractive chiefly from its social and political position. Mr. Baddeley has still the most beautiful and interesting parts of the country to deal with, and by making a few additions of this kind he will add greatly to the value of his most handy little guide-books.

We have received the fifth edition of Mr. Baddeley's "Thorough Guide" to the Highlands of Scotland. Formerly designated 'The Highlands,' it now appears under the name of *Scotland*, Part I. (Dulau & Co.), which is more convenient, as Edinburgh, Glasgow, Ayr, and Dumfries are, amongst other places, included.

*Handbook for Essex.* By Miller Christy. (Chelmsford, Durrant.)—This little book might be commended as a model to writers of guide-books. Its whole arrangement represents intelligent care and thought, and it is doubtful whether there could be found in any similar work such a mass of useful information in so singularly small a compass. Essentially businesslike and practical in his directions, the author has not only given, as he proposed, "a maximum of information in a minimum of space," but has brought that information up to date in a way that is, unfortunately, all too rare. Sports, antiquities, and natural history are all treated of in their place, and in every parish of the county the tourist will find, in a few lines, an exact list of everything worth seeing. It may be hoped that residents will be found in some of our other counties to do what Mr. Miller Christy has accomplished so well for Essex.

A good word may be said for Mr. H. J.

Foley's *Our Lanes and Meadowpaths; or, Rambles in Rural Middlesex* (Hutchings & Crowsley), because it is pleasantly written. Although it does not profess to be a complete guide-book it contains some useful directions for pedestrians, and points out in an appreciative way most of what is worth seeing in walks which may be begun at the end of a sixpenny railway journey from any of the northern stations. It sadly wants an index.—The same district is comprised in the first series of *Rustic Walking Routes in the London Vicinity*, by W. R. Evans (George Philip & Son), of which an amended and enlarged edition has been issued. To this terse and well-arranged handbook Mr. Foley may owe something, but his map is larger than that of Mr. Evans.

MESSRS. TRÜBNER & Co. have sent the edition for the present year of *B. Bradshaw's A B C Dictionary to the United States, Canada, and Mexico*. It is suggested in the preface that in future the book may be published in Chicago, and then "even the objection that it is an English work will vanish."

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

WHOEVER wishes to see a vivid, if somewhat lurid picture of Parisian life and extravagance during the period which followed the Terror cannot do better than read M. O. Uzan's spirited essay *The Frenchwoman of the Century: Fashions, Manners, Usages* (Nimmo). All the world, as the author says, knows what Bonaparte, Ney, and others were doing abroad during the years VII. and VIII., but comparatively few have even an inkling of what took place in Paris in that eventful period. How Josephine was leading the French *haut ton*, mostly "beggars on horseback," and the wild tatterdemalions who out-Heroded Herod in vice and waste while travestying their richer neighbours' follies, is here depicted with abundant force and colour. "Son Altesse la Femme," as it was the fashion to call her, ruled the years which succeeded the horrors of the régime of Robespierre and his associates. When the reaction of Thermidor set in, Parisian society, glutted with tales of blood which were not less hideous because they slightly exceeded the truth, woke as from a terrible nightmare, and a reign of luxury, inspired by women, set in, which rivalled that of Rome under the worst emperors. A long procession of men and women appears in these pages. They were the inmates of what is not unhappily styled a paradise of paganism. M. Uzan makes us see the wild carnagole of lewdness and waste till we seem to hear the footsteps of the corybants of that Dance of Death, who, at the beginning of the Directory, disported themselves on the grave-stones of the cemetery of St. Sulpice. The Bal des Tilleuls was held in the Rue d'Assas, and over the graveyard of the convent (one of the most ancient in Paris) of the Carmes Déchaux. It is impossible to wish for a better proportioned and more spirited series of sketches of the looks and ways of the *Nymphes and Merveilleuses*, the *Écrouelleux* and *Inconcevables*, the goddesses of the year VIII., the fashionables of the Restoration, the lionesses of the Second Empire, and their successors till the end of that imperial *kermesse*, from the chill of the reaction from which we have not yet emerged. The astounding extravagance of Josephine, under whose auspices the tide of fashion turned, finds thorough exposition in these pages, and, being largely promoted by her insatiable love of dress and wonderful luxury, it has close relationship with the history of costume as well as manners, which are the links binding together the persons who flit through these lively chapters and who took part in the social events which they record with so much vivacity. Madame de Rémusat's account of the wild waste of the empress is more than confirmed by the chroniclers of the

day. She had from three to four hundred cashmere shawls, and made dresses of them for herself, coverings for her bed, cushions for her dog. Bonaparte, who found her shawls, which she wore with incomparable grace, cover her too much, snatched them off, and sometimes pitched them into the fire; then she asked for others. She had 40,000l. worth of pearls in her jewel-case. In the Year VIII. "Madame Bonaparte was at the head of the opposition [to those who wished to return to the ancient order of things]; it was her part to defend grace and good taste; besides, she detested straitlacedness, official entertainments; formal garments frightened her. Notwithstanding, the toilette was a part of her life; but she must have costumes of the day, robes cut low in the neck, with a high waist; supple vestments, a Roman coiffure with a frontlet, fillet, or a golden hair net enveloping the head. Who would conceive of Josephine in a powdered wig, with furbelowed petticoats!" The tastes of Josephine had been to a certain extent formed when she had a smaller Civil List than the one hundred and ninety thousand francs the emperor appointed as the minimum of her allowance. She and the women of the Directory not unfrequently found models for their costumes in England. As M. Uzanne puts it, "Out of the land of fogs there came to us the wadded garments bordered with velvet, the spencer bordered with fur, open over the half-naked breast, giving to women a false Ladoiska air; country bonnets, dolmans, which they spelt *dolimans*, and multitudes of costumes of equally happy arrangement. The crowned hats in lawn, book muslin, lace with pearly edgings, were well received at the end of the Year VII.; they were worn in white, rose, jonquil, or blue; they accompanied the fashion of apron fichus of assorted colours. These aprons formed at once girdle and fichu; they were originally fastened behind with ribbons in rosettes. This attire might appear at the first glance an object of luxury; 'but,' says a writer of fashions, 'if one came to consider the transparent fineness of the robe, which served often for chemise, one would recognize in it the same advantage which is possessed by the aprons of the savages.'" This was better than the dancing orgies which came into furious vogue immediately after 9 Thermidor.

We have received from Messrs. Warne & Co. *Tips for Tricyclists*, by "Prof." Hoffmann. The little volume here and there suggests that it has been written with the idea of advertising certain firms, but, whether that be so or not, it will be found of use by tricyclists. The author has a good deal of humour of a quiet kind; take for example what he says in recommending as a drink a pinch of oatmeal stirred up in a tumbler of water, "For years we have been intending to try it." Or this: "One of the first things to strike the novice on first taking to cycling is that the world is much more hilly than he has been accustomed to consider it. Roads which, while he was a mere pedestrian, he has been accustomed to regard as level, he now finds to possess a very decided slope." Or, again, the advice under "Thirst" to keep the mouth shut and breathe through the nose: "If, however, the reader will not accept good advice—see 'Drink, What to.'"

If life were long enough and one were bound to master the poetry of his native district, Mr. William Walker's *Bards of Bon-Accord* (Aberdeen, Edmond & Spark) might be recommended to every Aberdonian. It is a most laborious and exhaustive (and also exhausting) work, extending to 662 pages, and giving a detailed account of upwards of sixty bards, with notices of close on two hundred bardlings besides. "Bardlings of a day," "bardlings far below mediocrity," "lesser local versifiers"—such are Mr. Walker's own epithets for many of the subjects of his volume. Few names therein are known to the outer world. Barbour, who wrote 'The Bruce';

Alexander Ross, of Hudibrastic fame; his namesake of 'The Fortunate Shepherdess'; the "Minstrel" Beattie; John Skinner, author of 'Tullochgorum'; and William Thom, of 'The Mitherless Bairn'—one can almost count them off on the five fingers. And after these whom have we left? Well, there is Pennycook Brown, and "even in minds of the highest culture there are certain moods in which poetry like Pennycook Brown's gives more exquisite pleasure than would that of a far greater genius." Or there is William Gell, sen., author of 'The Solar System Paraphrased; or, our Range of Space as it Was and Is, wherein all Astronomical Terms are Suppressed.....to which is appended a Paraphrase on the Fall of Man.' Exigencies of space—a favourite phrase with Mr. Walker—have sorely curtailed the full title of this great poem, no passages from which are vouchsafed us whereby to duly estimate its merits. Otherwise quotations are plentiful, few of them so bad as to be laughable, still fewer good enough to be fairly readable. Much the best is 'The Gathering of the Hays,' a fiery Jacobite war-song, in connexion with which one may notice that at the date of the battle of Killiecrankie the clansmen hardly drank healths to "King James VIII." Nor can the exquisite lyric "O gin I were where Gadie rins" have been written by John Imlah, born in 1799, for one is certainly older than 1793. But actual blunders are rare, beyond the initial blunder of the book's existence at all.

The incomparable De Balzac has found in MM. Cerfbeer and Christophe two admirers who have produced a volume—published by M. Calmann Lévy in a form similar to that of the twenty-four-volume edition of the novels and letters—which is calculated to serve his fame. It is a sort of 'Men of the Time' in which the biographies are those of Balzac's characters. Real people, such, for example, as Napoleon and Duroc, figure in it, but are only named in connexion with the events, real or false, which Balzac records of them. One weakness which is revealed, along with enormous strength, comes from Balzac's ignorance of foreign countries. Look at his English, for example—"Sir Francis Drake," the manager of the Italian opera; "Lord Dudley" and "Lady Arabella Dudley"—they are "thin" in the extreme. His Spaniards are not much better. The joint authors of the *Répertoire de la Comédie Humaine de H. de Balzac* have done their work admirably.

The two volumes on *The Bible and Contemporary History: an Epitome of the History of the World from the Creation till the End of the Old Testament*, by the Rev. W. H. Pinnock, which Messrs. Reeves & Turner have issued, are altogether an anachronism. The author was a pious and even in his way learned country clergyman, but he was altogether uncritical, and as fitted to deal with Biblical problems as Mr. Casaubon with mythology. It is a pity these volumes were published.

The first part of a new edition of that excellent serial *The Sea* has been sent to us by Messrs. Cassell. It has been revised and greatly improved.

The Goethe Society has sent us a collection of the *Papers* (Nuti) read before it in its first session.

The July half-yearly issue of the *India List, Civil and Military*, has been received from the publishers to the India Office, Messrs. Allen & Co.

The first number of a new monthly international circular for the book, paper, and printing trades, called the *Export Journal* (Leipzig, Hedeler), has been forwarded to us. The matter is printed in English, French, and German, and the advertisements for the most part in more than one of those languages.

We have received another volume of *Indici e Cataloghi* from the Italian Ministry of Public

Instruction, dealing with Italian manuscripts in French libraries. Signor Mazzatinti has done his work with great thoroughness.—We also have before us another instalment of Prof. Bartoli's Catalogue of the Palatine MSS. in the Florence Library.—We have also received a report of the speeches made at the opening of the Sala Bessarione at Venice.

MR. BERTRAM DOBELL has sent us a catalogue of the books and autographs at his new shop. From Birmingham have been received catalogues from Mr. Brough and Mr. Downing (including especially ornithological works). Messrs. Matthews & Brooke of Bradford have sent a catalogue of Yorkshire books; and Mr. Jefferies of Bristol, Mr. Teal of Halifax, and Mr. Howell of Liverpool have forwarded general catalogues.

We have on our table *The History of Constitutional Progress, 1837-1887*, by G. O. Belles and W. H. Devenish (Oxford, Rowbottom).—*Brazil, its Condition and Prospects*, by C. C. Andrews (Tribner).—*Easy Selections from Ovid in Elegiac Verse*, edited by H. Wilkinson (Macmillan).—*On Light*, by G. G. Stokes (Macmillan).—*The Climatic Treatment of Consumption*, by James A. Lindsay (Macmillan).—*Chance and Luck*, by R. A. Proctor (Longmans).—*The Intelligence Quarterly for London and Suburbs*, No. I. (Bartholomew).—*Neck or Nothing*, by Mrs. H. Lovett-Cameron (White).—*A Millionaire of Rough and Ready*, by Bret Harte (White).—*The Detective's Daughter*, by E. M. Murdoch (Ward & Lock).—*The Diamond Coterie*, by E. M. Murdoch (Ward & Lock).—*Out of a Labyrinth*, by E. M. Murdoch (Ward & Lock).—*Passages in the Life of an Undergraduate*, by Bee Bee (Sonnenschein).—*The Two Crosses*, by J. W. Nicholas (Simpkin).—*In the Way*, by J. H. (Burns & Oates).—*All is Lost save Honour*, by C. M. Phillimore (S.P.C.K.).—*The Recording Angel*, by J. Harris (Wertheimer & Co.).—*A Song of Love and Liberty*, by G. H. Addy (Field & Tuer).—*Loyal Staves*, by W. C. Bonaparte-Wyse (Plymouth, Keys).—*In Divers Tones*, by C. G. D. Roberts (Boston, U.S., Lothrop).—*Sketches in Song*, by G. L. Raymond (Putnam).—*Lanciotto, a Tragedy in Five Acts*, by C. Cenloot (Wyman & Sons).—*A Misunderstood Miracle*, by the Rev. A. S. Palmer (Sonnenschein).—*Some Difficulties of Belief*, by the Rev. C. Bodington (S.P.C.K.).—*The Parish Priest of the Town*, by J. Gott, D.D. (S.P.C.K.).—*Our Divine Saviour, and other Discourses*, by the Right Rev. J. C. Hedley, O.S.B. (Burns & Oates).—*Bar-Jonah, the Son of the Resurrection*, by the Rev. A. Beard (Bell).—*A Commentary on the Two Epistles of St. Paul to the Corinthians*, by the late Rev. W. Kay, D.D. (Macmillan).—*Tolerance*, by the Rev. P. Brooks (Macmillan).—*The American Sunday School*, by J. H. Vincent (S.S.U.).—*The New Religio Medici*, by F. Robinson (Stock).—*Agnostic Problems*, by R. Bithell (Williams & Norgate).—*Justification and Imputed Righteousness*, by the Rev. T. R. Birks (Macmillan).—*Die Bürgerliche Rechtspflege in England*, by E. Schuster (Berlin, Vahlen).—*Abendröte*, by P. Lanzky (Berlin, Duncker).—*Das Weib in der Natur- und Völkerkunde*, Parts II. and III., by Dr. H. Ploss and Dr. M. Bartels (Leipzig, Fernau).—*L'Allemagne jugée par la Russie*, by Michel Delines (Paris, La Librairie Illustrée).

#### LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

##### ENGLISH.

##### Theology.

Edersheim's (A.) History of Israel and Judah, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl. Gospel according to St. Matthew in Anglo-Saxon, Northumbrian, and Old Mercian, edited by Skeat, 4to. 10/ cl.

##### Law.

Craven's (J.) Handbook for High Bailiffs and Bailiffs of County Courts, 12mo. 3/6 cl.

##### Poetry and the Drama.

Best Plays of the Old Dramatists: William Congreve, edited by A. C. Ewald, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl. Brown's (Rev. W. W.) Christ the Life of Lives, with other Poems, cr. 8vo. 2/ cl.

##### History and Geography.

Haughton's (T.) Student's Summary of the Principal Events in English History, with Notes, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.

Kennedy (David), the Scottish Singer, Reminiscences of his Life and Work, by M. Kennedy, 8vo. 7/6 cl.  
Thoresby (Ralph), the Topographer, his Town and Times, by D. H. Atkinson, 2 vols. 8vo. 25/  
Trelawny's (J.) Records of Shelley, Byron, and the Author, cheap edition, 6/

#### Geography and Travel.

Cunningham (C. D.) and Abney's (Capt. W. de W.) The Pioneers of the Alps, 4to. 42/ cl.

#### General Literature.

Balzac's (H. de) The Alkalib, or the House of Claes, 3/6 cl.  
Bryant's (S.) Educational Ends, or the Ideal of Personal Development, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.  
Clarke's (C. M.) Among Thorns, cr. 8vo. 2/ cl.  
Coape's (H. C.) The Château de Lonard, a Story of France, cr. 8vo. 5/ cl.  
Desart's (Earl of) Lord and Lady Piccadilly, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.  
Evelyn's (C.) Miss Nettle's Girls, royal 16mo. 3/4 cl.  
Heptameron (The), Tales of Marguerite, Queen of Navarre, cr. 8vo. 2/6 swd.  
Little Arthur at the Zoo and the Birds he saw There, by M. Seymour, cr. 8vo. 2/ cl.  
Motherly Counsels, Letters from a Swiss Lady to Former Pupils, cr. 8vo. 2/ cl.  
Oliphant's (Mrs.) A Country Gentleman and his Family, 6/  
Robinson's (F. W.) In Bad Hands, and other Tales, 3 vols. 31/6  
Russell's (W. C.) A Book for the Hammock, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.  
Tales for Sportsmen, by Dragon, illustrated by G. Bowers, cheap edition, 8vo. 2/6 bds.  
Tucker's (G. A.) Lunacy in Many Lands, roy. 8vo. 10/ cl.

#### FOREIGN.

##### Theology.

Friedrich (J.): Geschichte d. Vatikanischen Konzils, Vol. 3, 28m.  
Jeremias (A.): Die Babylonisch-Assyrischen Vorstellungen vom Leben nach dem Tode, 6m.  
Preiss (H.): Religionsgeschichte, Parts 1 and 2, 6m.

##### Philosophy.

Adickes (E.): Kants Systematik als Systembildender Factor, 4m.

##### History and Biography.

Ebeling (F. W.): Floegel's Geschichte d. Grotesk-Komischen, Part 5, 10m.  
Wolfsgruber (C.): Die Hofkirche zu S. Augustin in Wien, 5m.

##### Philology.

Grollmus (M.): De M. T. Cicerone Poeta, 1m. 50.  
Nohl (H.): Die Sprache d. Nicolaus v. Wyle, 1m. 80.  
Reinhardtsoetner (K. v.): A Historia dos Cavalleiros da Mesa Redonda, from a Viennese MS., Vol. 1, 7m.  
Schleich (G.): Yvain u. Gawain, 6m.  
Strassmaier (J. N.): Inschriften v. Nabonidus, König v. Babylon, Part 1, 12m.

##### Science.

Moutin (L.): Le Nouvel Hypnotisme, 3fr. 50.

#### General Literature.

Geiger (L.): Goethe u. die Renaissance, 6m. 80.  
Mouy (Comte Charles de): Lettres du Bosphore, 4fr.  
Pesquidoux (D. de): Le Comte de Chambord d'après Lui-même, 4fr.  
Proschianz (F.): Sako, translated from the Armenian by J. Lalajan, 1m.  
Veullot (Louis): Correspondance de, Vol. 6, 6fr.

#### BISHOP FELL.

5, Worcester Terrace, Clifton, Aug. 20, 1887.

THE following letters were copied many years ago from the originals at Westwood Park, and are worth preserving as they throw so much light on the characters of Bishop Fell, of Oxford, and his correspondent Lady Pakington, and the relation in which they stood to each other. There are others in the same collection of equal interest, which I hope to publish hereafter. It is only necessary to remind my readers that Westwood Park was the place where Henry Hammond resided during the whole of the time of the rebellion, apparently acting as chaplain to the family of the Pakingtons. He was designed for the see of Worcester at the Restoration, but died before he could be appointed, when the bishopric was given to George Morley, afterwards translated to Winchester.

The first letter bears no date of the year. It is endorsed "Rev<sup>d</sup> Doctor Fell, Bishop of Oxford," and directed "To the honourable the Lady Pakington at Westwood, near Worcester":—

Oct<sup>r</sup> 14.

HONOUR'D MADAM,—It is now a week since my Lord of London's long day had an end; 'tis said that he died poor which I think is no ill account of him; I am sure it would not be, were there legible foot-steps of Public charities that exhausted him; and that they are not so, may possibly be from his industrious care in concealing them. The Bishop of Oxford in probability will succeed: and several persons with great eagerness have set up me to succeed him and hold the Deanery with it: have proceeded to move the King; and as they say receiv'd his assent and approbation, and many arguments are found out why the thing must needs be. But God knows I am not at all convinc'd; and find the charge of a College so weighty a duty, and not to think it reasonable to have a Diocese added to

it. The last night I had the satisfaction of hearing from Rampton,\* & being afraid of the health of the good Woman and hir new tenants. My Ailesbury friend has not yet sent me an answer, he is a sober man & may defer writing till he is enabled to give a perfect account of all your Queries; if he does not suddenly write, I shall take it for granted my letter came not to his hand, for I know he would not otherwise have bin defective.—I beseech Almighty God to give health and comfort and all blessing to your Ladiship, and remain Honour'd Madam

your Most faithful Serv<sup>t</sup> in our L<sup>a</sup>, J. F.

Oct<sup>r</sup> 14.—The enclosed has bin with me four or five daies expecting this conveyance. You will easily guess his Lordship to be one of my importunate advisers.†

The second letter bears no date of the year, but is endorsed "Bishop Fell's letter," and directed "To the Honourable the Lady Pakington at Westwood, near Worcester, these.—J. F."

Dec<sup>r</sup> 9.

HONOUR'D MADAM,—I have for this week last past bin under the greatest difficulties that ever I was in, w<sup>ch</sup> still remain upon me. Whereas I thought myself secure from ever having the bishoprick of Oxford or any other proposed to me, having absolutely rejected the tender of it several weeks before; upon Saturday when the King declared my Lord of Oxford design'd by him for London he named me to succeed, and ordered the Secretaries to send me word that it was his peremptory command that I should take it and hold it with my Deanery. In pursuance whereof I had a letter by the Saturday post from Mr. Secretary Williamson, and by the next another from your Brother, importing such a concern for the thing that I am amaz'd what should be at the bottom of it; besides this my Lord of Canterbury‡ & several others send me word that if I refuse it will be a great mischief, that it would be more decent for me to have desired a great Bishoprick than to wave this, nay they proceed to say that I am absolutely obliged in conscience; and what troubles me most my friend Dr. Allestree is so peremptory to tell me, after several letters upon the occasion, that in his opinion I have all waies by w<sup>ch</sup> (unless I expect revelation) to judge that I am call'd to it and cannot refuse without the commission of sin. Amidst all this I am reprocht with Tergiversation that my standing off is to avoid that hazard of suffering w<sup>ch</sup> threatens the church, and at this rate I am treated by the soberest and best of men. Which way to extricate myself I know not: I beg your prayers & your advice, and remain,

Honoured Madam,

your Most faithful Serv<sup>t</sup> in our L<sup>a</sup>, J. F.

The third letter has no date of the year: directed "To the honourable the Lady Pakington at Westwood, near Worcester, these.—J. F."

March 6.

HONOUR'D MADAM,—At the same moment that I was put in fear for poor Mrs. Eyre by your Ladiship's letter I was relieved by another from hir, w<sup>ch</sup> mentioned hir illness & gave me assurance of hir recovery. She has I doubt not communicated the same advertisement to you and strengthened your reliance on the divine goodness by adding to all the former, this instance of defeated despondence. I was very well pleas'd to find your Ladiship notwithstanding the pressure of so deep a concern to recollect that it did not become you of all others to despair, who have had so frequent instances of God's delivering from the gates of Death. Good Madam, this is the least of the mercies that your gracious father has in store for you, there is another deliverour from the gates of death of which these temporary rescues are a faint resemblance, wherein he will magnify his mercy and his truth.—That by a thankful submission to his fatherly chastisements, and by a resign'd and entire reliance on his goodness, you may every day make yourself more dear to him is the heartfelt prayer of

Honoured Madam

your most faithful Serv<sup>t</sup> in our L<sup>a</sup>, J. OXON.

March 6.

I have bin told that Mr. Pakington had lately ill success at a Race: but know not how deep his concern was; if it were not much, I shall be so hard hearted to think the loss was better than winning.

NICHOLAS POCOCK.

\* Lady Pakington's eldest daughter married Anthony Eyre of Rampton, co. Nottingham.

† The date of this letter is easily determined as 1675. The allusions are to Humphrey Henchman, Bishop of London, who died October 7th in that year, and was succeeded by Henry Compton, Bishop of Oxford, on the 18th of December. The writer, who was Dean of Christ Church at the time, was consecrated bishop February 6th, 1676, and held the deanery in commendam till his death, July 10th, 1686.

‡ The Archbishop of Canterbury referred to in this letter was Gilbert Sheldon, who lived till 1677. Dr. Allestree was the Regius Professor of Divinity and Canon of Christ Church.

ANTONIO DE VERONA.

Oxford, Aug. 29, 1887.

THIS personage appears in the King's College (Cambridge) accounts between two and three years before Henrietta Maria was married to Charles, and while the Spanish marriage was still conceived possible. The entry is "Antonio de Verona, Judeo."

I have no doubt that he was a professed Jew. Whenever the colleges in Oxford and Cambridge make gifts to Jews, they always use the word "converso" or "baptizado" when the recipient has professed Christianity. I need hardly say that a great impulse was given to Hebrew studies in England at the beginning of the seventeenth century, and that instruction would naturally be sought from learned Jews, especially rabbis.

I set no particular value on the addition of the word "Maria" to Antonio's name. It is so quoted by Henrietta Maria only, and (no blame to them when they came in contact with fanatical bigotry) the Jews were frequently obliged, as an obvious precaution, to adopt misleading surnames. I am convinced, had Antonio professed Christianity in 1623-4, the King's College account would have noted it. How he got into Henrietta Maria's good graces I cannot say. At the beginning of his reign Charles inherited serious pecuniary difficulties from his father, and Antonio, who may have been a learned Hebraist in Cambridge, may have been a shrewd financial agent in London. Among the documents which I am printing is one illustrating the way in which loans were made to the king by the City of London, and secured by grants of Crown lands.

It is more obvious to suggest the cause why Antonio was recommended to the University of Oxford. The University had large privileges of sanctuary or asylum, and I knew, forty years ago and more, that a colony of Jews had been sheltered in Oxford from the days of the expulsion, that they shrank to a very small number at last, and that finally the remaining relics were scattered when a calamitous fire occurred in their quarter, then called Pennyfarthing Street, a name since altered by a stupid and ignorant local board to Pembroke Street.

JAMES E. THOROLD ROGERS.

#### THE HISTORY OF AN ELIZABETHAN LIBEL.

The Courtiers craved all  
The Queens granted all  
The Parliament passed all  
The Keeper sealed all

The Ladies ruled all  
Mouns<sup>r</sup> Buyroume spoyled all\*  
The crafty intelligencer hard all  
The Bushoppes smothered all

He that was apposed [set] himselfe agaynst all†  
The Judges pardoned all  
Therefore unless yor<sup>e</sup> Majestie speedily amend all  
W<sup>th</sup>out the great mercy of God the devill will have all.

A short time ago I discovered the above oracular satire upon "the classes" under "good queen Bess," and struck with its confirmation of the results of my own researches in a similar direction, I spent some time in vain endeavours to make out any personal allusions contained therein. Prof. Hales, to whom I communicated these verses, kindly supplied me with many interesting references to contemporary literature in support of their general truthfulness. In relation to the conjectured date 1600, Prof. Hales also suggested that Mounsieur Buyroume should be Marshal Biron (who certainly spoiled nearly everything that he touched), and he was strongly of opinion that the whole satire referred to some particular occasion of resentment. Amongst other things, Prof. Hales alluded to the "Five Aills" on the signboard of an inn at Marlborough. Now this local instance sent my thoughts at once to Littlecote and to Wild Darrell in connexion with the matter, for I had found these verses amongst a mass of papers and deeds, drafts,

\* The placeman by his greed and ambition.

† The informer who denounced, under examination, suspected persons.

interrogatories, and the like, all relating to the life history of this unfortunate gentleman. Having obtained a clue, I followed it with persistency, and was at length rewarded by the discovery amongst a further parcel of Darrell papers of evidence tending to show that the reputed author of this satire was none other than Darrell himself, and that the publication of these verses was connected with a story of force and fraud as remarkable as most of those which are associated with Darrell's life.

It appears that in the year 1577, Darrell being in his normal state of antagonism with most of his neighbours, great and small, an armed party of the latter proceeded to the house of one Thomas Brinde, at Wanborough, and murdered him in cold blood as he sat before his door. Now Brinde's offence being his connexion with Darrell in the capacity of agent and probably informer as well, the murderers were harboured and protected by Darrell's great enemies, foremost of whom was Sir Henry Knevett, sheriff of Wilts. The widow of the murdered man was compensated with an enormous sum, and the circumstances of the case were hushed up by the unanimous exertions of the local magistrates, so that it seemed as though the ends of justice would be defeated. Darrell, however, was not a man to put up with an affront. The crime had been committed within his own feudal lordship, and the murdered man had been his trusted agent—his friend he now impulsively called him, whose blood cried out for vengeance. He posted up to town and interviewed Mr. Solicitor, the Lord Chief Justice, and other influential friends, who seem to have jumped at the opportunity of laying this wealthy and unpopular client under new obligations by encouraging him to take the initiative for the vindication of the law. This Darrell essayed accordingly, and an abortive prosecution was the result. After a year's delay, seeing that no justice was to be got in the shire, he next sought out the brother of the murdered man, and assisted him to lay a petition before the Crown itself, openly charging Sir Henry Knevett with shielding the guilty parties from justice. This brought matters to a crisis. Knevett had a strong party amongst the older officials, like Burleigh and Bacon, whilst Darrell was backed either out of friendship by patrons such as Leicester and Hatton, or from interested motives by such men as Pembroke and Walsingham. Darrell's enemies now put out their whole strength in order to effect his ruin. First Knevett brought an action against him for promoting the petition of his late accuser, laying his damages at 5,000*l.*, and others hastened to follow his example. At the same time Darrell's kinsman and bitter enemy the Earl of Hertford was busily engaged in collecting evidence, by threats or promises, in support of another charge, which was no less than that of the child-murder described in the familiar 'Legend of Littlecote.' As, however, neither of these schemes promised a speedy issue, they fell back on the infallible expedient of denouncing Darrell as a disaffected person. Two of the Littlecote retainers were induced to risk the penalties of misprision of treason by accusing their master of a certain slander uttered in their hearing, "and particularly touching the Lords of the Privy Council, and after that the ladies of the Courte, and laste the Judges of the londe."

Here, then, we have the identification of our libel with the one attributed to Darrell, the existing MS. being, no doubt, in the form of a deposition taken during subsequent proceedings. These at once resulted in Darrell's arrest, examination, and imprisonment in the Fleet, where he remained for several months of 1579 under the high displeasure of her Majesty. His enemies, of course, took every advantage of his imprisonment to complete his destruction. They pillaged his houses, drove off his cattle, ill used his servants, and otherwise behaved themselves as though for unpopular subjects the laws did not

exist. There are thirty or forty of Darrell's letters written during his imprisonment and addressed to different friends at Court, which form a complete journal of his sufferings under this persecution, and some of these afford instances of his unfortunate propensity for satire. Nevertheless it seems to me that these lines were not actually written by Darrell himself. It is true that he had a large experience of all the abuses which he was accused of satirizing. The Patent Rolls of the period contain grants and offices to the two Knevetts, among other Wiltshire worthies, with monotonous regularity. Of the influence of Court ladies and the favouritism of the Church Darrell had some experience during his divorce suit; while his whole history is a commentary on the venality of the courts, which were blocked with his processes. Darrell's native satire, however, ran in another vein than this, boisterous and personal. Thus he satirizes Knevett: "Behold your Sheriff in this Session sitting before you. Methinks I hear him now. Rising and mending his Nightcapp, he cacketh like a goose. If he may have leave he will never make an end." Now by a curious coincidence at this very time the Leicester faction was more or less in disgrace at Court—disgrace which would involve the fortunes of Pembroke and his wife's relations. Philip Sidney had espoused his friend and patron's cause, and it is to his eventual distaste of these Court intrigues that we owe his pastoral connexion with Wiltshire. The elder Sidney, too, had returned in the summer of 1578 from his government of Ireland, burning with indignation at the hard dealings of his sovereign, and it is only natural to suppose that he visited his daughter during his stay in England—in fact we find him in 1579 staying with the Pembrokes at Ramsbury. Thus there would seem to have been a little circle of disaffected courtiers in Darrell's neighbourhood, with whom he enjoyed the closest intimacy. It is quite possible, then, that Darrell may have heard this rhymed libel recited by some wit, possibly by Master Philip Sidney himself, during a visit to Ramsbury, and, having indiscreetly repeated it at his own table, was betrayed by his faithless servants. We have, in fact, a similar episode related in the State Papers of the period, in which a libel against Walsingham, uttered at a Wiltshire dinner-table, was reported by a spy, to the confusion of the company. This supposition, moreover, is not wholly fanciful, for we know that to his dying day Darrell declared that he had suffered for another's fault, to screen a greater than himself, and that one he tells us was Pembroke. It is not, perhaps, often that we are enabled thus to trace the motive of a political satire to an actual episode of contemporary society.

HUBERT HALL.

#### SHELLEY'S 'POETICAL ESSAY ON THE EXISTING STATE OF THINGS.'

Dublin, Aug. 29, 1887.

It may interest those persons who are curious as to the bibliography of Shelley to know that this lost poem is described in the *British Review* for September, 1811 (in the list of new works), as having been printed in quarto.

EDWARD DOWDEN.

#### THE COMING PUBLISHING SEASON.

MESSRS. CASSELL & Co. announce "The International Shakespeare," an illustrated *édition de luxe* in the style of their 'Romeo and Juliet,' illustrated by Frank Dicksee, A.R.A., published in 1884, which will be followed by 'King Henry IV.' illustrated by Herr Eduard Grützner; 'As You Like It,' illustrated by M. Émile Bayard; 'Othello,' illustrated by Frank Dicksee, A.R.A.; 'King Henry VIII.' illustrated by Sir James Linton, P.R.I.; and 'Twelfth Night,' illustrated by G. H. Boughton, A.R.A.,—'The Holy Land and the Bible,' by the Rev. Cunningham Geikie, D.D., 2 vols.,—the completion of

the illustrated edition and a cheap edition of Dr. Geikie's 'Life of Christ,'—'Abbeys and Churches of England and Wales,' edited by the Rev. T. G. Bonney,—the *Magazine of Art* volume for 1887,—a new edition of the first series of 'Character Sketches from Dickens,'—a popular edition of Prof. Ebers's 'Egypt,'—the first volume of a new edition of 'Cassell's History of England,'—'Dead Man's Rock,' a romance, by Q.,—'A Queer Race,' by W. Westall,—illustrated editions of Mr. R. L. Stevenson's 'Kidnapped' and of Mr. Rider Haggard's 'King Solomon's Mines,'—'The Youth's History of the United States,' by Edward S. Ellis, 4 vols.,—'How Dante climbed the Mountain,' by Rose Emily Selfe, with a preface by the Bishop of Ripon and eight full-page engravings after Gustave Doré,—'Ships, Sailors, and the Sea,' by R. J. Cornwall-Jones,—*Little Folks* Christmas volume,—*Bo-Peep* volume for 1887,—'Æsop's Fables,' cheap edition, illustrated by Ernest Griest,—a popular edition of 'The Life and Work of the Seventh Earl of Shaftesbury, K.G.,' by Edwin Hodder,—the twelfth divisional volume ('Ship' to 'Tartufism') of 'The Encyclopædic Dictionary,'—part iii. of the 'Imperial White Books,'—cheap editions of Mr. Charles Lowe's 'Prince Bismarck,' of 'Russia,' by Sir Donald Mackenzie Wallace, and of 'Cannibals and Convicts,' by Julian Thomas ('The Vagabond'),—'The Republic of the Future,' by Anna Bowman Dodd,—vol. i. of 'Our Earth and its Story,' by Dr. Robert Brown, F.L.S.,—a popular edition of 'Doré's Dante's Purgatorio and Paradiso,'—'Architectural Drawing,' by Phéné Spiers,—a new edition of 'Colour,' by Prof. A. H. Church,—a cheap edition of Prof. H. G. Seeley's 'History of the Freshwater Fishes of Europe,' and of 'Short Studies from Nature,'—'Legends for Lionel,' with illustrations by Walter Crane,—'The Palace Beautiful: a Story for Girls,' by L. T. Meade,—'The Cost of a Mistake,' by Sarah Pitt,—'Seeking a City,' by Maggie Symington,—some new volumes of the 'World's Workers' series, viz., 'The Earl of Shaftesbury,' by Henry Frith; 'Sarah Robinson, Agnes Weston, and Mrs. Meredith,' by E. M. Tomkinson; 'Mrs. Somerville and Mary Carpenter,' by Phyllis Browne; 'Thomas A. Edison and Samuel F. B. Morse,' by Dr. Denslow and J. Marsh Parker,—four new volumes of 'Our Pretty Pets' series,—the volumes for 1887 of the *Lady's World*, *Cassell's Family Magazine*, the *Quiver*, and *Cassell's Saturday Journal*,—the completion of 'Familiar Garden Flowers,' by Shirley Hibberd,—the third series of 'Familiar Wild Birds,' by W. Swainsland,—'Cassell's Illustrated Miniature Edition of Shakespeare,'—a cheap edition of 'The Leopold Shakspeare,'—a new edition of 'The Family Physician,'—in 'Cassell's Red Library,' Miss Austen's 'Sense and Sensibility,' Longfellow's Prose Works, and Selections from Thomas Hood's Works,—in their 'American Library of Fiction,' 'A Tragic Mystery,' by Julian Hawthorne; 'The Yoke of the Thorah,' by Sidney Luska; 'Two Gentlemen of Gotham,' by C. and C.; 'Who is John Noman?' by Charles Henry Beckett; 'The Tragedy of Brinkwater,' by Martha L. Moody; and 'The Great Bank Robbery,' by Julian Hawthorne,—'Standard Drawing Copies,'—'Cassell's "Model School" Test Cards,' by George Ricks,—in 'Cassell's National Library,' Plutarch's 'Lives of Timoleon, Paulus Æmilius, Lysander,' &c.; 'Endymion and other Poems,' by Keats; 'Voyage to Abyssinia,' by Jerome Lobo; and 'Sintram and his Companions, and Aslauga's Knight,' by De la Motte Fouqué,—'The Year-Book of Treatment for 1887,'—'The Stock Exchange Year-Book for 1888,' by Thomas Skinner,—and several almanacs and annuals.

Mr. J. C. Nimmo will publish during the coming season 'The Life of Benvenuto Cellini, newly translated into English by Mr. J. A. Symonds, with etchings by F. Laguillermie

and other illustrations, 2 vols.—'The Works of George Peele,' 2 vols., and 'More Lyrics from the Song-Books of the Elizabethan Age,' edited by A. H. Bullen,—'Reginald Pole, Cardinal Archbishop of Canterbury, an Historical Sketch,' by Frederick George Lee, D.D.—'De Omnibus Rebus: an Old Man's Discursive Ramblings on the Road of Every-day Life,' by the author of 'Flemish Interiors,' with illustrations by R. Caulfield Orpen,—'A Bibliographical Account of English Theatrical Literature from the Earliest Times to the Present Day,' by Robert W. Lowe,—and an edition by Mr. Lowe of Dr. Doran's 'Annals of the English Stage from Thomas Betterton to Edmund Kean,' in 3 vols.

Messrs. T. & T. Clark announce for publication early this month a translation of Prof. Dorner's posthumous work, 'A System of Christian Ethics,' edited by his son, Dr. A. Dorner. The translation has been executed by Prof. C. M. Mead, D.D. (late of Andover), and the Rev. R. T. Cunningham.

### Literary Gossip.

THE Annual Report, recently issued, of the Trustees of the British Museum contains two novelties of importance. The first of these is exactly that which, in face of nothing of the kind appearing elsewhere officially or otherwise, we for many years endeavoured to supply, i.e., an abstract of the leading features of the report, containing notes on the general progress of the Museum, the chief acquisitions of each department, and brief memoranda of many kinds concerning not only what has been done, but what has been suggested (such as the appropriation of an additional reading room to people "not requiring to consult works of older literature and rarity," in short, a plan for removing from the existing Reading Room those troublesome encumbrances who ought to find places in local free libraries). The second addition is even more startling. Together with the honourable thanks of the Trustees, it enumerates not only a long series of benefactions obtained from collectors of various kinds by Mr. A. W. Franks, such as the Slade, John Henderson, and William Greenwell gifts (an incomparable aggregate), but the magnificent donations of the Keeper of British and Mediæval Antiquities himself. The value of these gifts, the Trustees admit, exceeds 20,000*l.*, while that of the objects obtained by Mr. Franks's influence approaches three times that amount.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN will publish for Prof. Mahaffy a short book entitled 'The Principles of the Art of Conversation.' As the book is already in type it may shortly be expected. The professor's 'Greek Life and Thought from Alexander to the Roman Conquest' will appear in October.

MISS BRADDON'S jubilee novel—her fiftieth—entitled 'Like and Unlike,' will be issued early next month by Mr. Spencer Blackett, who will in future continue alone the business formerly carried on by him in partnership with Mr. J. Maxwell, jun., under the firm of John & Robert Maxwell.

MR. H. G. DAKYNS, of Clifton College, who contributed an essay on Xenophon's life and work to the well-known volume 'Hellenica,' which appeared some years ago under the editorship of Mr. Evelyn Abbott, is engaged upon a complete translation of Xenophon's writings, with a general introduction and essays on special aspects of

the subject. The work will be complete in four volumes, the first of which, containing the general introduction, the first two books of the 'Hellenica,' and the 'Anabasis,' is now in the press, and will be published by Messrs. Macmillan & Co. within the next few months.

THE next volume of Mr. Elliot Stock's "Popular County Histories" will be a 'History of Warwickshire,' by Mr. Sam. Timmins.

A NEW edition of the fragments of Ctesias, with historical discussions, may soon be expected from Mr. J. E. Gilmore. It will be published by Messrs. Macmillan.

It will be remembered that some three or four years ago Mr. Ruskin republished, with facsimiled, but uncoloured illustrations, an anonymously written child's book of amusing verse entitled 'Dame Wiggins of Lee,' which first appeared in 1823. Mr. Ruskin is silent as to the authorship, and as his copy no doubt bears the imprint of A. K. Newman & Co., of the old Minerva Press, Leadenhall Street, he naturally, but it now appears wrongly, credited the publication of the little book to that firm. The almost forgotten original wood-blocks to 'Dame Wiggins of Lee,' and to many other children's books of the same series, have recently been found. The real publishers were Dean & Munday, of Threadneedle Street, from whom Newman seems to have been in the habit of purchasing special editions of what he considered their best—most saleable—publications, and, by arrangement, his name only appeared in them as publisher. It must have been one of these copies that fell into Mr. Ruskin's hands. 'Dame Wiggins of Lee' was written by a Mrs. Sharpe, sister of a grocer of that name in Bishopsgate Street; and the clever cuts—sometimes ascribed to Sir H. Brookes, of Hastings—are by R. Stennet, who illustrated for the same publishers two other stories for children, 'Deborah Dent and her Donkey' and 'Madam Fig's Gala.' We learn that a series of "Forgotten Picture Books for Children," to include those mentioned, with hand-coloured cuts from the original blocks, and an introduction by Mr. Andrew Tuer, is shortly to be issued in cheap form from the Leadenhall Press.

WE understand that a selection from the sermons of the late Wm. Maturin, D.D., of Dublin, will be published by Messrs. Macmillan. The sermons will be edited by Canon Smith, of St. Bartholomew's, Dublin.

MR. HENRY ROSE, the author of 'Three Sheiks,' has in the press a new volume entitled 'From West to East,' which Mr. David Stott hopes to publish in the first week of October.

A NOVEL will shortly be published in England by Messrs. Sampson Low & Co. and in the United States, under the title of 'Mohammed Benani.' The scene of the story is laid in Morocco, and it is intended to illustrate the abuses of the foreign *protégé* system in that country.

MR. THOROLD ROGERS writes:—

"The account of the execution of Scrope, Archbishop of York, which goes under the name of Clement of Maidstone, was written by Gascoigne, and was first printed by me in my 'Locie Libro Veritatum' from Gascoigne's original MS. All that this piratical Clement did was to

leave out all the personal allusions and references to his own family which Gascoigne introduces—particulars which give a special vivacity to his narrative. It takes a long time for a new historical fact to gain currency. The reference to Gascoigne's own narrative is Bodley, Auct., iv. 5."

MR. THIN, of Edinburgh, will publish in October 'Songs and Lyrics by Heine,' translated into English verse by Prof. J. Geikie, of the University of Edinburgh.

PROF. ATKINSON, of Dublin, is printing for the Royal Irish Academy a long Irish text, with a glossary which amounts to a lexicon for the text, and which runs to several hundred pages. This is the proper answer to his parliamentary and other critics.

MR. ARCHIBALD COLQUHOUN is writing a paper on the present position and future prospects of British rule in Burma for the October number of the *Asiatic Quarterly Review*.

THE names of candidates for the examination of library assistants and others, to be held by the Library Association on the 13th of September, should be sent to the honorary secretary, 2, South Square, Gray's Inn, not later than the 8th inst. Essays in competition for this year's prize should be sent in by the 15th.

THE new number of the *Library Chronicle* contains an important article by Dr. Garnett on 'Changes at the British Museum since 1877,' and an account by Mr. Henry Jenner of the new plan of 'Movable Presses,' which, as he observes, "has probably provided space for the next half-century."

THE ratepayers of Fleetwood have adopted the Free Libraries Act. The library will be located in a building hitherto called the Whitworth Institute, which has been presented to the town by Mr. Samuel Fielden, of Todmorden.

A CORRESPONDENT writes:—

"The anecdote you quote from Mr. Reynardson's book 'Sports and Anecdotes of Bygone Days' with regard to 'Pickles' is not new. It is to be found in Dean Ramsay's 'Reminiscences of Scottish Life and Character.' The noble lord was Lord Tweeddale, and 'Pickles' was taken ill during the absence of his master, and the keeper warned the marquess of the sad fact and of the progress of the disease, which lasted three days, in the three following laconic epistles:—

Yester, May 1st.

MY LORD,—Pickle's no weel.—Your lordship's, &c.

Yester, 2nd May.

MY LORD,—Pickle will no do.—I am your Lordship's, &c.

Yester, 3rd May.

MY LORD,—Pickle's dead.—I am your Lordship's, &c.

This is Ramsay's version of the story, and in my opinion Mr. Reynardson has not improved upon it."

EVEN great critics do not know everything. M. F. Sarcy has just published a signed article from which it appears that he is under the impression that France was lately at war with England in Madagascar, or at least that the Englishmen serving with the Hova troops were in the "pay of England."

AMONG the various journalistic ventures projected abroad we note an international monthly catalogue of the principal publications of current European literature, to be published at Paris under the title of *Bulletin Bibliographique*.

THE Allgemeine Deutsche Sprachverein will hold a general meeting next October at Dresden. Among other topics the foundation of an academy of the German language will be discussed.

We have received the programme of the twentieth Literary Congress of the Netherlands, which is to be held at Amsterdam from September 15th to September 17th. The association is too severely patriotic to append a French translation of its prospectus; but we see that 'Macbeth' is to be acted—and no doubt very well acted—in a Dutch version.

IN view of the backward condition of Mohammedan education in India it is satisfactory to learn that the leading members of that community in various parts of the country are making strenuous efforts at progress. The Anjuman-i-Islam of Ahmedabad, for instance, have recently taken an important step in this direction by the establishment of an English school in that town for the education of the Mussulmans of Gujerat.

It will be news to many that the Quechua or Inca language is taught in the public schools of Ecuador, the Indians being numerous. There has recently been a project of the administration for its abolition.

THE death is announced of the Rev. James Hildyard, who, over forty years ago, brought out editions of the 'Aulularia' and 'Menechmi' of Plautus, and whose name is remembered at Cambridge in connexion with a controversy regarding the placing of the successful candidates in the Classical Tripos. Since his retirement to a college living Mr. Hildyard had published volumes of sermons and other theological works.

THE death is also announced, in the eighty-second year of his age, of Mr. Robert Hedderwick, who was for a long period connected with the *Glasgow Citizen* newspaper.

THE popular Austrian writer and versatile journalist Johannes Nordmann, one of the editors of the *Neue Freie Presse*, recently died at Vienna at the age of sixty-nine.

THE Danish writer Thomas Lange died at Lyngby, on the 24th of August, of blood-poisoning. He was born in 1829. Of Lange's novels, of which the Danish newspapers enumerate ten or twelve, the best known is 'Aaen og Havet' ('The Streamlet and the Sea').

THE chief Parliamentary Papers of the week are Canada (Canadian Tariffs), Correspondence; Slave Trade, No. 1, 1887, Correspondence; Bank of England, Annual Accounts; Zululand, Further Correspondence; East India, Accounts and Estimates, 1887-8, Explanatory Memorandum; Mines and Minerals, Annual Statistics; Ports (Great Britain and Ireland), Customs, &c., Report; Railway Accidents, General Report for 1886; Admiralty and War Office (Sites), Report, Evidence, &c.; and reports on the trade of Rotterdam, Nantes, Antwerp, Stettin, and Erzeroum.

## SCIENCE

*The Mathematical Theory of Elasticity, with a Short Account of Viscous Fluids.* By W. J. Ibbetson, M.A. (Macmillan & Co.)

WE have often wondered why writers on difficult scientific subjects so often speak of their works as "elementary," although the nature of their subject forces them to make frequent use of the highest branches of mathematics. That Mr. Ibbetson's treatise is an "elementary text-book" in the sense that it defines and explains the first principles of its subject in lucid and perspicuous language we willingly admit; but it certainly assumes the student's previous mathematical reading to have been pretty extensive. Of course, the author is not to blame for this, and we are merely alluding *en passant* to a curious practice among scientific writers.

Yet, difficult as the work must be as a whole except to advanced mathematicians, the opening chapter, which treats of the nature of matter in general and elastic solids in particular, may be perused with interest by any intelligent reader. It is interesting, for instance, to learn that scientific men have strong reasons to believe that all kinds of matter, however apparently continuous, are ultimately granular in structure, being composed of very minute (but not infinitely small) material particles or molecules which perform incessant motions so long as the matter contains any heat. Many interesting items of general interest might also be gleaned from the body of the work, though of course it is not intended for ordinary readers, but for hard-working mathematical students. To these we can strongly recommend Mr. Ibbetson's treatise. It is carefully and systematically arranged, the diagrams are excellent, and the work altogether is evidently that of a writer who thoroughly understands his subject, and takes a pleasure in expounding it. In a mathematical work of over five hundred pages it is virtually impossible not to make some *errata*, but in the course of our reading we have not detected any which could be added to the author's list.

The subject treated of in this book is one of great and daily increasing importance. Few realize how much the practical engineer and mechanic owe to the labours—generally, alas! sadly unremunerative labours—of the theoretical mathematical investigator. It would be well, indeed, if our practical constructors would consult our mathematical writers more than they do on the strength, elasticity, tenacity, &c., of various kinds and forms of matter. We should then probably hear less of guns and boilers bursting and of other preventable accidents. Mr. Ibbetson's chapters on strains and stresses are excellent, and their importance with reference to the accidents of which we speak is self-evident. Most interesting, too, are the author's illustrations on the economy of material carried out by nature in organic structures. Good examples of this are to be found in the stems of plants; but it is especially in the complex structure of the bones of the higher animals that we find the most consistent and remarkable application of the principle of economy. The author

gives on p. 502 a figure exhibiting a diagrammatic view of the lines of stress in a section of the upper portion of the thigh-bone, cut vertically from right to left, and looked at from the front; and on the next page he gives another figure from a photograph of an actual section of the same bone. A glance at the two figures will suffice to show how wonderfully close is the correspondence between the sections of the bony laminae and the theoretical lines of stress.

The author says truly that the labour involved in the collection and arrangement of materials for a work of this kind can only be appreciated by those who have fully studied the subject for themselves, and that this labour would be greatly increased if he had undertaken to acknowledge in foot-notes the sources from which each theorem or formula was derived. In many cases he does make this acknowledgment, and when he does not, the reason given in his preface should prevent any reasonable mathematician from feeling aggrieved by the omission.

*Social History of the Races of Mankind.*—Division I. *Nigritians.*—Division II. *Papua and Malayo Melanesians.* By A. Featherman. 2 vols. (Trübner & Co.)

MR. FEATHERMAN has set himself a long and laborious task. To digest from the travellers' tales of the last two centuries, the reports of missionaries, and the more formal observations of recent explorers, all that can be ascertained of the social life of every tribe of the many races of mankind; to reconcile the contradictions of these various authorities; and to discriminate where prejudice or credulity may have led them wrong, are undertakings that demand a vast expenditure of time, a great accumulation of knowledge, and some critical acumen. Mr. Featherman is well equipped in these respects. He justly repudiates the faint praise that would damn him as a mere collector of facts, and give him credit for nothing but industry in collecting them. He claims that he is writing, on the basis of facts collected from original authorities, a history of the peoples in their social capacity, including their manners and customs, their government, their religion, their superstitions, and their literary, artistic, and scientific advancement. He is, at any rate, engaged on a work which is such a storehouse of facts as the student of comparative sociology will not meet with elsewhere, arranged with simplicity and clearness. He takes the wise course of stating the travellers' tales and missionary assertions in which he does not believe, so that those who have more robust faith or who distrust his critical judgment have the opportunity of accepting them if they think fit. The fifth division of the work (the Aramean) appeared in advance some years ago, and the two portly volumes before us comprise respectively the first and second divisions. Several more volumes, it appears, are ready for press, and we understand that the author has made arrangements for their publication, even should he himself not live to superintend it.

His plan is as follows: under each tribe are stated first with exactness the geographical situation and natural features of the country which it inhabits; then the principal flora and fauna are described briefly, and their scientific names stated; next the physical

characteristics of the people; and then, in succession, their moral character, the structure of their dwellings, their dress and customs of personal adornment or disfigurement, their food, their occupations, their weapons, their industries, their trade, their language, their amusements, their musical acquirements, their customs of marriage, their practices of courtship, their manner of parturition, their treatment of children, their disposal of the dead, their government, their laws, the punishment of offences, the prerogatives of the chiefs, and, finally, their religious notions and their superstitious beliefs and practices. To the history of each tribe is appended a list of the authorities, with dates. The work, he asserts, "is neither an ethnology nor an anthropology, in the technical sense of these words, and yet it contains valuable materials of the highest importance to the ethnologist and the anthropologist."

Like most writers on ethnology he has his own system of classification, by which, of course, no one is bound but himself. Whether the reader accepts it or prefers one of his own is, however, of little moment; for the article relating to each tribe is complete in itself, and when the work is finished it will matter little in what particular volume the social history of a certain tribe is to be found, so that it is found somewhere. As far as the two volumes before us are concerned there need be no quarrel with the classification, for the Nigritians, or dark races of Africa, and the Papuo-Melanesians of the Australian continent and islands, and the Malayo-Melanesians of the Malayan archipelago and peninsula, are classes which present sufficiently obvious distinguishing characteristics from every point of view.

The index to each volume is its weakest point, and we would suggest that when the work is complete it should be followed by a general index, so copious and so explanatory as to be in itself a valuable book of reference. It is clearly of no use to find in an index the word "Agriculture" followed by seventy page numbers, and the same remark applies to every subject which is common to all the tribes treated of in the first volume. The time spent by the student in hunting up the seventy references would be better employed in reading the book. On the other hand, an index that would refer the reader at once to particular tribes which practise special methods of agriculture would be of great utility; and so of the other subjects. In like manner an index to the authorities would be useful, especially if applied to the whole work.

Mr. Featherman insists upon the distinction between religion and superstition. He finds little of the former and much of the latter in the savage African tribes. He is justly satirical on the assertions that the Yoruba language has original words for repentance, justification, sanctification, and other theological terms; that the Oedos believe in a supreme being who is omnipotent, omniscient, omnipresent, and invisible; that the Korannas have a tradition that after death the spirit of man ascends through a gate in the clouds into another world; and others in which tribes have been credited with the possession of abstract ideas which are far beyond their comprehension, of which, in fact, they have

not the least conception, and to which their languages are unable to give expression. Many statements of the like kind, but less obviously coloured by preconceived notions, are recorded, but referred to as doubtful, while some are accepted without comment which a severer critic might also have rejected. On the other hand, the records of superstitious practices and belief are abundant and various. The Papuans draw auguries and predict the future from the flight of birds or the cutting of a banana. The Biaras, if they have no religion, have a belief in the survival of the ghostly self of their deceased relatives and friends, which is one of the primitive germs of religious development. All the arts and enterprises of the Minahasses are controlled by the scream of the screech owl. Almost every tribe has furnished the explorer with instances of the like kind, which as here collected furnish ample material for the studies of the comparative mythologist and folklorist.

We have not been curious to search for casual errors in a work so laborious and so useful, and the few that have forced themselves on our notice are too trivial to be recorded. Mr. Featherman appears to feel some disappointment at certain unfavourable criticisms upon the earlier volumes published by him; we shall say nothing to discourage him in the further prosecution of his excellent undertaking.

#### ASTRONOMICAL NOTES.

A COMET ( $\delta$ , 1887) was discovered early on the morning of the 25th ult. by Mr. W. R. Brooks at Phelps, Ontario County, N.Y. It was at the time of discovery in the northern part of the constellation Cancer, a little to the north-east of the planet Mars. This is the second comet discovered by Mr. Brooks in the present year, the former ( $\beta$ , 1887) having been found by him on the 22nd of January. Comet  $\epsilon$ , 1887, which was discovered by Mr. Barnard on the 12th of May, is still visible (in the constellation Aquila), but only with the aid of a powerful telescope.

The report of the committee appointed to superintend the arrangements for the expeditions sent out by the British Government to observe the transit of Venus in 1882, and securing their co-operation, has recently been published. It will be remembered that Mr. Stone, Radcliffe Observer at Oxford, undertook, at the request of the committee, the duties of directing astronomer in connexion with these arrangements and with the subsequent deduction of the results. Accordingly, Mr. Stone's report, giving an account of the observations and the results for the solar parallax which have been calculated therefrom, accompanies that of the committee. It had been decided by them that it was undesirable to undertake photographic observations of the transit, as had been done in 1874, and that attention should chiefly be directed to contact observations. Expeditions were sent from England to Jamaica, Barbados, Bermuda, Cape of Good Hope, Madagascar, New Zealand, and Brisbane, Queensland; and the observations at all these stations were successful, except at the last, where dense cloud and rain rendered it impossible to obtain any. Other observations made in Natal, Mauritius, Australia, New Zealand, and Canada were forwarded to the committee, and are also discussed in this report. We need only give here the numerical results at which Mr. Stone has arrived after a careful reduction of all the observations made at the different stations. Owing to the nature of the phenomena to be observed, much depends, as is now well known, upon the particular phase

caught by each observer and the proper interpretation to be put upon the language used in describing it. From the observations of external contact at ingress Mr. Stone obtains the parallax  $8''760 \pm 0''122$ ; from those of internal contact at ingress,  $8''823 \pm 0''023$ ; from those of internal contact at egress,  $8''855 \pm 0''036$ ; and from those of external contact at egress,  $8''953 \pm 0''048$ . The most probable combined result he considers to be  $8''832 \pm 0''024$ , which corresponds to a mean distance of the earth from the sun of  $92,560,000 \pm 250,000$  miles. This is a somewhat smaller distance (resulting from a larger parallax) than other methods have led us to consider its most probable value; and, on the whole, it does not seem likely that the solar parallax exceeds  $8''8$ , or that the sun's mean distance falls much, if at all, short of 93,000,000 miles.

#### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK. Wed. Entomological, 7.

#### Science Gossip.

MR. STANFORD has sent us Mr. Symons's 'British Rainfall,' which is somewhat shorter than last year, but records a great deal of good work.

M. DE LA MARTINIÈRE is now engaged in exploring the remains of the prehistoric cities of Morocco on the banks of the Sebou and the Licus.

#### FINE ARTS

'THE VALE OF TEARS.'—DORÉ'S LAST GREAT PICTURE, completed a few days before he died, NOW ON VIEW at the Doré Gallery, 33, New Bond Street, with 'Christ leaving the Pretorium,' 'Christ's Entry into Jerusalem,' 'The Dream of Pilate's Wife,' and his other great Pictures. From Ten to Six Daily.—Admission, 1s.

#### THE PRIVATE COLLECTIONS OF ENGLAND. No. LXXXVIII.—COLLECTIONS NEAR LIVERPOOL.

MR. ISMAY, whose name is known on both sides of the Atlantic, has built a stately and picturesque mansion at Dawpool, near Birkenhead, on the cliff which overlooks the Dee, and commands a view of the North Welsh coast as far as the Paris Mountain and Penmon in distant Anglesey, and has gathered a number of modern British pictures which he has kindly permitted us to describe. The most important are as follows. Sir John Millais's large landscape called 'The Fringe of the Moor' (now at Manchester) was lately at the Grosvenor Exhibition, and fully described in the Catalogue of that gathering. It is dated 1874, the year it was shown in the Royal Academy. By the same artist is the three-quarters-length, life-size portrait of Mr. Ismay, which was at the Academy a few years ago and has since then been much improved by repainting.

Heer Israël's large picture named 'The Birthday' owes its sentiment in a great measure to its light and shade, chiaroscuro, and sad colouring. It is full of tone and much more highly finished than usual with the painter. The scene is the living room of a Dutch fisherman's cottage. A young mother puts an omelet into a pan as a special treat for a child who sits on the floor eagerly watching the ceremony; a girl stands near, with her hands in her lap; a boy wistfully waits for the repast. The charm of the colour of the picture is enhanced by the old blue tiles surrounding the fireplace, and contrasting with the dun, dull orange, brown, and olive of the accessories, and the ashy warmth of the rough floor. The mother's tender face is touching. Near this picture, its verdurous downs in sunlight, pale yellow sands, and many-hued blue sea contrasting with its low tones and sober tints, hangs Mr. Hook's 'Carting for Farmer Pengelly,' a rich landscape of the Land's End and White Sand Bay, with its margin of dark rocks strewn the beach, where the slow summer billows break in lines of silvery white and idly dash on yellow sands near the

middle foreground. Across them a boy drives homewards a donkey-cart that is laden with vrac of all conceivable varieties of tints. A smaller boy trails a long bunch of seaweed behind him as he, pitchfork on shoulder, trudges after the cart. A superb study of early autumnal light, surcharged with heat and full of vivid colours in delightful and strong harmonies, this is one of Mr. Hook's best productions. Quite as brilliant and more ambitious is the large landscape by Mr. A. W. Hunt called 'Harlech Castle.' The artist has formed an adequate conception of a grand subject, and the delicate effect of light and shadow is of a most complex kind. We look from the south, over the Traeth Mawr and sea, to the distant Carnarvonshire hills, where enormous clouds are drifting towards the higher peaks of Snowdon, already half enshrouded in vapour. The higher hills resemble masses of silver; and the far-off air over Carn Boduan and Yr Eiffl—peaks that, by contrast with the vast tract of golden atmosphere behind them, seem blackish—is effulgent, and its luminosity indicates the splendour of the sea invisible to us, over which it broods in this glorious summer afternoon. An enormous iris, enclosing a veil of many-coloured light, screens the dark pass of Glaslyn. The huge mass of King Edward's fortress is in the centre of the view, and its sad, yet delicate colours, and soft, rich tones, at once balance and contrast with the verdurous Traeth, the many tints of the hills, and the brightness of the sea and sky. It would be interesting to see this study in juxtaposition with that huge picture (coarse and utterly untrue) of the same subject by James Ward, which unhappily found a place in the National Gallery, and is as unworthy of the painter as of the subject and the nation.

An acceptable and popular picture is Mr. Calderon's 'Victory,' his contribution to the Academy Exhibition of 1873. The scene is the battlements of a castle where matrons, maids, and children, young and old, are assembled and looking eagerly between the merlons. In thus representing an incident as reflected in the emotions of a group of spectators Mr. Calderon has triumphed in his way. The design is full of spirit; it has a few touches of pathos and abundance of movement; technically, it is brilliantly lighted, clear in colour, sparkling in the apposition of its colours and shadows, deftly rather than solidly handled, and it is worthy of note that time has not affected its pigments nor the canvas. Near this attractive picture is an English landscape such as we have often seen from the hands of Mr. V. Cole, and one of his best works.

Mr. B. Riviere's well-known 'Daniel in the Lions' Den' (now at Manchester), which has been engraved by Mr. J. C. Lewis with much success, belongs to this collection. This capital painting is in perfect condition; it was painted in 1871, and shown at the Academy in 1872. In 'Comola,' by the same artist, a damsel of romance sits on a rock, with a horn slung at her side. She is attended by deerhounds. If a little sentimental, the design, nevertheless, is pathetic. With these and Mr. Calderon's 'Victory' may be grouped Mr. Marks's 'Capital and Labour,' which was at the Academy in 1874. It shows a deputation of craftsmen, with their spokesman in front, meeting their employer and his architect on the scaffolding of a building in which they are all concerned. There is a touch of the stage in the figure of the master, but the expressions and attitudes of the other figures could not be better specimens of Mr. Marks's turn of mind and his technical powers. 'Convocation,' by the same artist, is a spirited satire. Nine adjutants in black and white plumage, bearing a comical resemblance to clergymen of the Church of England, stand on a waste heath of sand; they seem to be gravely meditating over rather than discussing a knotty matter; in their self-centred and contemplative gravity there is

expressed complete dullness. Both these pictures of the R.A.'s are in good condition. The latter was at the Academy ten years ago. 'The Three Fishers' are three storks, long-legged and crested, grouped with admirable skill, standing by a pool, and seemingly discussing the quality of the fish it furnished for their dinners. The humour here is very keen and very quiet. Mr. Pettie's 'Cavaliers and Roundheads' will be remembered as showing four men attacking one man on the skirt of a wood. It is a good example of its kind. Mr. Boughton is not at his best in 'Snow in Spring,' a company of ladies and children in a wood, where they have been gathering early flowers, and were surprised by snow falling. In the faces, however, there are some good qualities.

Better known than the last is Mr. G. D. Leslie's charming interior called 'Return to School,' a young girl in a white dress and black ribbons seated on her box. Her naïve air and tender face are exquisitely true. A more important picture by the same artist is 'Pot-pourri' (now at Manchester), two girls making pot-pourri by help of a mortar and a caster. The faces need no praise. The lighting of the picture is pure, and its taste refined and delicate. The painting of the porcelain bowl and beakers is of the best. Also by Mr. Leslie is a delightful water-colour called 'Curiosity.' A pretty girl in a white dress is standing on tiptoe before an open cupboard, and peering into its contents with an expression of deep interest. The classic grace and purity of line and colour here displayed add greatly to our enjoyment of the beautiful face and English air of the damsel. Though the execution is rather slight, the beauty of the design and painting makes the picture irresistible, while its motives are thoroughly spontaneous and true to nature. By Mr. Marks is a capital water-colour picture called 'Security,' an old merchant standing before a cabinet in which he is about to deposit some documents. Near these hang two nobly drawn and lifelike large studies by Huggins of Liverpool, representing lions and lionesses, his favourite subjects. Mrs. Allingham's 'Harvest Moon' has much of her freshness and ingenuousness. A tall and graceful young man walks slowly in a field-path, holding a sickle in one hand and his coat over his shoulder. He turns to gaze at the full moon, which has lately risen over a hill. In addition to the above drawings we found at Dawpool Copley Fielding's fine 'Snowdon' of 1827, a distant view of the mountain, with water in the front: a first-rate example, of unusual solidity and breadth. By Mr. Oakes is a fine moorland scene, in oil, with Snowdon rising over low hills and lower land. The calm air is full of light, and the effect of the picture is of the broadest, while there is an immense deal of detail. Mr. F. Goodall's 'Hagar and Ishmael' in the desert is here. Near it hang some unusually expressive portraits of young ladies by Mr. Sant.

Mr. P. Stuart, of Waterloo, near Liverpool, has a numerous collection of works of art which he kindly permitted us to see and write about. We may notice the best in the order in which they hang on the walls of the house. Ary Scheffer's 'Excelsior' is less sentimental than most Scheffers. It is the head of a man looking up, painted with extraordinary force and forthright skill. Near it is W. Muller's well-known 'Mooreland Landscape,' a sunny glade with figures. It is warm in tone and extremely rich in colour. Meyer von Bremen's 'Reading the Bible' depicts a girl in a white cap; by the same painter is 'Morning Prayer,' a girl sitting at a table with a book in her hand. 'Saying Grace' belongs to the same group, and depicts with much animation and tenderness of design a young woman with a child on her knees, praying. By the late clever animal painter Mr. Duffield we have a powerful 'Brace of Pheasants.'

There is a large Maclise, Joan of Arc mounted on a white horse, and issuing over a

drawbridge from a fortress, while she hews down her opponents. Despite the disproportion of the figures, the design is vigorous and the colouring splendid. John Phillip's sketch for 'The Scotch Fair' is noteworthy as a contrast to the Maclise, of which it is in nearly every respect the exact opposite. A row of booths is on our left, with bagpipers and people cooking in a tent. A farmer is bargaining for a cow, and a pretty girl has brought a calf for sale. The same artist's sketch for the picture of 'The Letter-Writer' is full of character and spirited design, enriched with superb colour, and distinguished by its vigorous contrasts of yellow with black garments, a white dress, and tawny flesh. A sketch of a picture of a dark brunette, with an old duenna in attendance, also came from Phillip's easel. The coloration is founded on intense black, vivid red, and rich yellow. 'Motherly Care' is likewise by John Phillip, and represents a young matron at her child's bedside, looking at the infant with beautiful tenderness and deep anxiety. Some well-painted fruit are on a table. This picture is cracked disastrously. A study of a girl seated is worthy of John Phillip. By Wilkie we noticed a capital small study of an old woman in a black bonnet, seated, with a book in her lap. By Mr. F. Holl is 'The Girl of the Mountain,' a half-length, life-size figure walking with a load of wood on her shoulder. With a weary and anxious air she looks across a rocky stream. By W. Muller is the head of a man in a cap, of very fine quality, free, rich, and sound. By Poole is an excellent study of a head, and 'Greek Courtship,' dated 1863. The portrait of Mr. Stuart by Mr. E. Long is an unusually careful instance; and 'Will You have a Piece?' by the same artist, as well as his life-size and effective 'Tambourine Girl,' and his early 'Portrait' of a very handsome lady, who leans her chin in her hand, and wears a blue snood, are worth noticing. By Mr. E. Nicol we have 'Irish Peasants praying at a Churchyard Cross.' It is dated 1864. By M. Victor Chavet is 'Critics,' a good specimen of French humour, comprising whole-length small figures examining pictures: a painting of great firmness and delicacy. Mr. Crofts's 'The Rescue' shows exceptional tact and spirit. It depicts a group of French cuirassiers in their voluminous white cloaks. By Mr. R. Macbeth is 'Hyde Park,' ladies and others, with swans. 'A Lone Scene,' and another work, are by Creswick. 'Italian Scene' is by J. B. Pyne. By Mr. E. Nicol is the small 'Paddy at Home.' By Mr. E. Long is 'A Roman Water Girl,' companion to a picture named above, and his 'Entrance of Columbus into Granada,' a street scene, painted in 1866. Etty's picture called 'The Backbiter,' a snake and a naked girl, was painted with zest for bright colour of a voluptuous sort. An early picture of J. F. Lewis's, called 'Venice' and showing Lord Byron looking on a canal, with a dog in front, is highly interesting. By G. Doré are 'Souvenir of Ascoli,' 'Venice,' and 'Coucher du Soir.'

At Waterloo we found a number of landscapes by W. Davis, of Liverpool, approaching to, but not equalling, the important collection of the same artist's works in the possession of Mr. Rae, of Redcourt, Birkenhead, which, with his Rossettis, we described at large in a former number of this series of papers. Mr. Stuart's Davises possess high merit and rare truth. A 'Landscape,' woodland, with a gleam of sunlight and abundant trees, is a clear and brilliant, lightly touched example. So is 'Ditton Mill,' an ancient structure, with broken vans standing sharply and strongly defined against a clear white and blue sky. An early picture of 'Carnarvon Castle,' by this artist, quite deserves its place here with his 'Ploughing,' small. H. Dawson's 'Chatham,' a study of sunlight on the river and chalk cliffs, is the sincerest prose of painting. A fine small picture of Linnell's shows a man milking a white cow. It is full of colour and distinguished by

the firmest finish, most solid and masterly, and without any tricks or bravado.

## THE CHARTERHOUSE.

August 29, 1887.

I HAVE no desire to interfere between Mr. Carpenter and the writer of your note on the Charterhouse, but, being very much interested in the history of the ancient buildings there, I cannot let what appears to me a mistaken view of the uses and character of the recently exposed parts pass without a challenge.

The part in question has twice escaped destruction within two years — this last time scarcely escaped. Mr. Carpenter suggests that pure ignorance was the cause of the danger in both cases. It is quite time, then, that some facts were finally established concerning it. But I think Mr. Carpenter will find it very difficult to get an acquittal for the governors on the ground of ignorance. He himself published a plan of the Charterhouse at the time of the first attack, and on this plan the tank was clearly marked. Mr. Carpenter was afterwards appointed advising architect to the governors, and he made a plan for driving a road through Washhouse Court and this very tank — that is, for abolishing the tank. Are we to understand he did this without taking the trouble to learn whether the building he had shown on his plan really existed or not? If so, that would not be exactly ignorance. In opposition to this plan and scheme the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings and the Commons Preservation Society made a strenuous effort. They published statements claiming this tank (among other parts attacked) as one of the ancient buildings of the Charterhouse, and its position was again shown on their plans. I think the registrar cannot say he did not see that plan, and the very striking one which showed the havoc to be made by his new road. About the same time I wrote a short paper for the purpose of identifying the existing buildings of the Charterhouse with those shown on the old plans, and I adopted in my plan the position of this tank as being that of a cistern shown on the oldest plan of all. A copy of this paper was sent to the master. Unless Mr. Carpenter means that official persons can only be expected to know things "officially," I do not see how the master and registrar can be supposed to have had "not the slightest conception" that this last alteration "would involve any interference with relics of antiquity." However, my purpose is, if possible, to establish something positive as to the relation of the tank to the old buildings.

Mr. Carpenter believes the tank, or a part of it, to be of monastic date, and especially the northern side, in which were found two "four-centred arched doorways of Reigate stone." I would ask Mr. Carpenter, with all respect, whether he makes this statement from his own observation or from a report made to him. I saw the lower doorway in its place. The opening was certainly cased with Reigate stone, but the stones were very irregular in size, and were, to my mind, old stones roughly adapted to the purpose. The upper doorway was disjointed and lying in the yard when I saw it. I should not have called the stone Reigate nor the work original. The headstone seemed to me an unskilful imitation of the doorheads in the cloister, not by any means a work of genuine architecture. In the sixteenth century masons still knew something of their art, and could never have produced such a piece of nonsense as that. Mr. Carpenter is, perhaps, led to believe these doorways ancient by the wish to make the tank a more ancient "porter's lodge." It would be difficult to suppose a second porter's lodge so close to the other and the undoubted one. The inner gate, beside which the tank was built, was but the entrance to the back premises, but if a porter were wanted there the lodge would have been built with the gate. Mr. Carpenter

says on the joints of the piers of the vault may be seen the casts of the older wall against which they were built, the wall in which the gate is. The piers were, therefore, built after the wall. The vault built on these piers to carry the load of water above is not in Houghton's style. The bricks are of the same make as those he used, and the bond is the same. Bricks of the size did not go out of use at the Reformation, and the use of English bond only implies that the work was before 1688.

There are three or four changes to be established in the history of this relic of the hospital. The making of the tank may have been the first change from the older cistern in that place, if it were there. It was probably made on the destruction of the old conduit in the middle of the great square. It existed in 1614, because it is shown on the plans made for the governors in that year; but it may have been built by them, because that plan shows the other additions they made. It was a square chamber of brick lined with lead, at a sufficient height to give a supply of water to the kitchen and wash-house. The support was a solidly constructed cross vault resting on four heavy square piers. The vault is round-arched, and has a round hole in the crown for the pipes to pass through (?). There is nothing in the architecture, to my mind, impossible in 1612, when the governors took possession. I think it quite impossible in 1512, the time of the great rebuilding of the monastery.

The next change came when the cistern was no longer used and the tank was connected with the registrar's house. The intervening yard was made into a room with a chamber over, and a stair was made against the outer wall of the tank. Whether the tankroom was utilized, and how, I do not know. I do not know if any windows were found in it. The ground-floor of the former yard was lined with wainscot; the plugs for fixing it to the brick walls remain; they are not of oak. The stair was of treads and risers, not like Houghton's stair in Washhouse Court, which has solid oak balks for steps. This stair could not have been an outer stair to an upper chamber over a gate-house, nor would the walls of the little court have been lined with wainscot. When the walls were panelled and the stair made we can scarcely conjecture. The paneling does not remain, and if it were there would have told of its own making, but not, perhaps, of the time of its adaptation to this place. After the paneling the walls were plastered and papered. The present condition is that the brick piers with the vault remain; the walls of the tank do not. If it be intended to rebuild these and to replace the doorway, it is well to put on record that the old tank has been completely destroyed and that the upper walls are of the year 1887.

The above points I would submit to the consideration of those who may be interested in the Charterhouse. It is possible, while the works are going on and access is less difficult, to get a complete examination and an opinion which may be offered to future historians of the place as a reasonable one and the best we could, under the circumstances, arrive at. I trust Mr. Carpenter will accept my criticism with that view.

As regards the theory of the removal of the fourteenth century work from St. John's Priory for the filling up of the new sixteenth century walls at the Charterhouse, I think it is necessary to remember that the Charterhouse was itself a fourteenth century monastery, and the destruction made for alterations in the first years of the sixteenth century would have supplied more than enough material for stuffing the new walls. I should like to see an old Carthusian claiming the pieces of tracery and carving found in the walls as relics of the older house, and more precious to him than any fragments of St. John's.

GEORGE WARDLE.

## THE ARCHEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE IN BRITANNY.

ON arriving at Vannes on Monday, August 15th, the members were met by Admiral Tremlett, who, having spent every summer for the last fifteen years in examining the megalithic remains of the country, was well qualified to act as their guide for the rest of their tour. The party first attended by invitation the marvellous museum contained in the château of the Count de Limur, who as a mineralogist ranks in France second only to M. Damur. Here, among other things, they were able to study numerous specimens of jade, jadeite, and fibrolite from all parts of the world, collected for the purpose of illustrating the hatchet heads which have been found, generally broken into fragments as a sign of grief or to denote the departure of a warrior, carefully buried beneath tumuli, dolmens, and menhirs. The Count de Limur himself discovered a vein of jade some nine years ago at Roquedas ("rock of Eddar," the Druidess), a few miles from Vannes, and only four years ago he discovered fibrolite in Brittany. In confronting the various jade implements found in prehistoric tombs with specimens of jade broken off recently from a rock in the same country, the count insisted strongly on the identity of these two materials, though it must be admitted M. Damur is of the opposite opinion. Moreover, there still remain magnificent specimens of Oriental jade, together with chlorelmelanite, amber, and callais, which must either have been obtained by the aboriginal inhabitants of the country by barter from some sea-faring folk, or have been brought with them in prehistoric times in their migration from their eastern home. The party next proceeded to the museum of the Société Polymathique of Vannes, which for its collection of prehistoric remains from megalithic monuments stands unrivalled in the world. Even the Blackmore Museum at Salisbury has nothing to compare with so many enormous and beautifully worked hatchet heads made out of a variety of precious materials.

Tuesday was devoted to a long carriage excursion in order to visit an ancient castle and church on the long and narrow peninsula of Rhuis. The castle of Soucinio ("no care here"), the original seat of the English branch of the Richmond family, built in 1250, and restored in 1420, and surrounded by a sea-water moat, presents a very fine appearance from its well-preserved machicolations crowning the skirting and its six round towers. The old abbey church of St. Gildas, where Britain's doleful historian lies buried, has a fine choir and north transept of the twelfth century; but all architecture in Brittany must be set down as at least a hundred years after the date of the same style in England.

On Wednesday the party went by steamer to Locmariaquer and to some of the islands of the Morbihan. A visit was paid to the stupendous menhir at Locmariaquer, 63 ft. long and 30 ft. in circumference, now lying on the ground in three fragments, which it would cost, as the French Government is considering, about 1,000*l.* to set up again in their original position. Various dolmens and Roman remains were then inspected before the boats steamed away to visit the curious wave-like, shepherd-crook, and hatchet-head sculptures in the underground monument of Gavv Innis, the finest known, and the large stone circle of the Ile aux Moines, the greatest known, composed of thirty-six stone menhirs from 6 ft. to 10 ft. high, the whole circle having a diameter of 320 English feet.

On Thursday the Vannes Museum was again visited, in order to inspect further its unique jade ring, about nine inches in diameter, and the fine golden torques and bracelets. In the afternoon the members had to be divided among the hotels of Carnac and Plouharnel, where on their arrival they had some hours left to visit the megalithic remains of the two centres. There is nothing in the world to equal the weird impression produced by the appearance of the long

lines of these rude stones of huge size running in a row, often eleven deep, at regularly broken intervals along the three miles of wild moorland that lies between these two places.

The whole of Friday and Saturday was devoted to driving to every stone monument of importance in the neighbourhood, and a great number of tomb dolmens were inspected, and also, by the kind permission of M. le Vicomte, the only remaining tumulus still unexplored which adjoins his baronial château. As to the meaning of these long lines of stones, so different from anything seen elsewhere, the impression gathered was that each stone block had been set up as a funeral monument. It is rare that an axe, vase, bones, or ashes are not found at their feet. The Romans seemed to have used them for the same purpose for secondary interment. The alternative theory would be that the three rectangular and the many circular enclosures of standing stones—here called cromlechs, as the covered tombs are called dolmens—were built as primitive places of worship or tribal gathering, while the long and deep lines of stones, often only a yard apart, which led up to and ended in them, formed a solemn approach that may have recalled to mind the shady groves under which their fathers had worshipped or foregathered on the high lands of far-off Phœnicia or Syria. The valuable and interesting prehistoric museums of Carnac and Plouharnel were freely opened and explained by their respective originators and arrangers, Admiral Tremlett and M. Gaillard.

Sunday was spent in Quimper, and on Monday, the 22nd, the party were most hospitably entertained by M. du Chatellier, whose château contains the richest collection in Finistère of prehistoric remains—all discovered in early excavations by his celebrated father, a pioneer in the work, or afterwards by himself—and the richest collection in France of gold Celtic ornaments. In the grounds were to be seen various monuments of Celtic and Roman times brought from other sites and re-erected for preservation.

It must be mentioned that all the menhirs, dolmens, and circles visited were composed of granite, some apparently of the same stone now found in the neighbourhood, and some of a finer kind—perhaps originally erratic blocks brought by natural causes. As to the finely chiselled sculptures on what now seems a hardened surface, it must be remarked that this granite stone when first taken from the quarry is very soft, and Admiral Tremlett himself proved the possibility of marking it without a metal implement, by making one of the usual cup-marks with a piece of chert in about twenty minutes. It must be added that the programme originally drawn up was strictly adhered to, and the whole excursion proved a great success.

#### THE CALDERSTONES, NEAR LIVERPOOL.

August 29, 1887.

POSSIBLY the markings on the Calderstones near Liverpool, recently examined by the British Archaeological Association, as noticed in the *Athenæum* of August 27th, have an origin similar to markings mentioned in an account of the riding of the bounds of Aberdeen given in the Burgh Records published by the Spalding Society. This seventeenth-century record describes the bounds as known by certain boulders, pillars, and rocks "crossit," "sauserit," or marked with a key—this last symbol indicating the boundary of St. Peter's parish—and it mentions that now and again certain landmarks were "ordainit to be sauserit."

It would be worth ascertaining whether any of these markings still exist at Aberdeen, and whether the saucer-mark is what we now term a "cup-mark." It is noted that the Calderstones "mark the meeting-point of the three townships of Wavertree, Allerton, and Woolton." It would be interesting to know how many varieties of markings these stones show, how they are distributed, what the marks described

as "medieval" and "modern" represent, and whether there is any record of their being made, or of the bounds of the townships being beaten or ridden. The marking of sites of courts or boundaries by burying bones, potsherds, cinders, or marked stones is common amongst primitive people.

Mr. Gomme, in his book upon folk-moots, quotes from Grimm the old Saxon practice of "fencing the court," in which the burying of ashes, bones, &c., in the centre of the circle of turf or stones was an all-important part of the ceremony.

In India our survey and forest officers have followed the native custom of burying charcoal beneath the boundary mounds or stones to establish the identity of their position.

BERTHA M. BROADWOOD.

#### Five-Art Gossip.

It is to be hoped that the energetic appeal of Mr. De Lisle to the Government, in favour of completing the mosaic decorations of St. George's Hall of the Parliament House, will not be in vain. The mosaic of St. George of England, by Mr. Poynter, is the sole example which exists. Although, as Mr. De Lisle urged, it is not faultless, this picture has many noble, vigorous, and stately qualities desirable for figures of the companion tutelaries, SS. Andrew, Patrick, and David, originally intended for the decoration of the hall. At present the place has a strange, unfinished aspect, which is quite unworthy of its architectural dignity. 'St. George' looks as well as ever, and as a mosaic it has stood tests of bad air, time, and damp to which all the frescoes in the Houses of Parliament (except Dyce's in the Queen's Robing Room) have succumbed in greater or less degrees. 'St. George' cost no more than 650*l*.

MR. ALMA TADEMA will be glad to hear that M. Gambart has presented to the Royal Picture Gallery at Madrid the life-size painting called 'A Siesta,' which the artist exhibited in New Bond Street a few years ago.

MR. ARMITAGE's picture representing the institution of the Franciscan Order, which was lately at the Academy exhibition, has been placed in the church of St. John, Duncan Terrace, Islington, for which it was destined as a substitute for a fresco of the same subject, of a different design, which we described in 1859, when it was newly finished. Since this date the fresco has, as we have previously recorded, deteriorated in a most complete manner, so that it was needful to substitute for the old one the new version in a more durable material.

AMONG the sums expended in 1886 by the City of London on education and fine art are 262*l*. 10*s*. for a bust of General Gordon; 210*l*. for a bust of Lord Shaftesbury; 100*l*., on account, for a bust of Sir R. W. Carden; for the City Fine-Art Gallery, 608*l*.; for a replica of Queen Anne's statue, 1,000*l*.; for the erection of the new School of Music, 16,268*l*.; Royal College of Music, 1,000*l*.; and Guildhall School of Music, 2,221*l*.

THE seventh annual autumn exhibition of modern pictures at Nottingham will open on Saturday, September 10th. The private view will be on Friday, September 9th.

SIR JAMES PICTON writes:—

"Will you kindly allow me a few words of explanation in reference to an article of August 29th? I wish only to refer to one point, the great stone of Thor at Thuraston, in Cheshire, which I gave reasons for believing is of Danish origin. This may be right or wrong, but the author of the article insists on the 'absence of any record, either literary or archaeological, to confirm it.' In Domesday Book we read: 'Isdem Robertus tenet Tur-stane-ton.' In the chartulary of St. Werburgh it is written *Thurstans-ton*; in a deed of 1309 *Thur-stanes-ton*. The rock is completely isolated, and has been hewn into its present cubical form by human hands. It corresponds with what is recorded of the Danish customs in offering sacrifices on huge altars in prominent

places overlooking the sea. It stands in a district where Danish names predominate, and is not far from the *Thing-wall*, the hill of counsel. It bears the name of *Thor* or *Thur* coupled with the *stane* or *stone*, and the *ton*, the township or enclosure, of small extent, in which it stands. It would be absurd to dogmatize, but until a better explanation can be offered, I think the strong probabilities are in favour of the Danish origin."

THE Luxembourg, having been temporarily closed for repairs, has been reopened to the public. The works of art lately bought by the State will be found in their places in the galleries. These include pictures from the Salon of this year by MM. Roll, Rapin, Mesdag, Lambert, Henner, Harpignies, Isabey, Gaillard, and Jean Gigoux.

THE French Minister of Public Instruction has appointed M. de Baudot to be the first tenant of the lately created chair of French Medieval and Renaissance Architecture attached to the Musée de Sculpture Comparée on the Trocadéro.

FROM the number we have last received of the Official Reports of the Berlin Museums we learn that the picture gallery during the winter acquired a female portrait by Velazquez (from Lord Dudley's gallery); a portrait of J. Arnolfini by Jan Van Eyck (Nieuwenhuis sale in London, 1886); 'St. John the Baptist,' by Ercole Roberti (from the Dondi-Orologio collection); 'The Virgin (enthroned) and Child,' by Benedetto Bonfigli; and 'Interior of a Village Barber's Shop,' by D. Ryckaert.

A LETTER from Rome in the *Frankfurter Zeitung* states that the nine wall-paintings by the German painter Ludwig Seitz, in the Candelabra Gallery in the Vatican, are now finished. He was commissioned by Leo XIII. to execute a series of pictures illustrating the triumph of the doctrines of St. Thomas Aquinas over modern errors.

MR. KOEHLER writes:—

"As you had the goodness to notice my book on 'Etching' in your issue of July 31st, 1886, you will perhaps grant me space enough, for the benefit of those of your readers specially interested in the subject, to correct an error of my own. On p. 149 I speak of several prints by William Havell, Thomas Hearne, and Robert Hills as 'etched in heavy, bold lines, almost mere outlines,' that 'would not dishonour Turner.' Repeated examination of these prints in the Phillips Collection at Philadelphia has convinced me that they are not etched at all, but are drawn on stone with pen and ink, or, possibly, autographed. The error may seem curious, and is certainly to be regretted, but admits of explanation. Some of the books accessible to me mention the artists in question as lithographers; the prints concerned have for years passed for etchings in the Phillips Collection, in a volume containing other etchings; and, finally, they are without margins, and have been pasted down, which, of course, makes it difficult to examine them properly. Referring to my original notes, made some years ago with these prints before me, I find that even then they looked to me like lithographs (although rather 'nourished' in the lines).....I beg to be allowed to add that the 'modern spirit' which I claimed for the etchings of De Vadder (see p. 39 of my book) finds a more natural explanation in the shifting of the lifetime of the artist. On the strength of the hitherto accepted authorities I named the years 1560 to 1623. From a communication by Dr. Wilhelm Schmidt, of Munich, to the *Kunstchronik*, vol. XXI., column 523, it now appears that De Vadder lived considerably later, i.e., from 1605 to 1655."

#### MUSIC

##### NEW PUBLICATIONS.

*English Glee and Part-Songs.* By W. A. Barrett. (Longmans & Co.)—This treatise on a branch of music on which the author is specially competent to speak is the substance of a series of lectures delivered at the City of London College. The history of the English glee cannot fail to be interesting to musical amateurs as it marks a peculiar growth at a time when the art generally was in a state of decadence in this country. The eighteenth century is not a period on which English musicians can glance back with satisfaction. The

glorious madrigalian age was long past, and the music of the Church, which had culminated with Purcell and his immediate successors, exhibited a steady decadence. We were not left without gifted composers, but they were forced, for the most part, to employ their talents on vulgar and unworthy subjects, public taste being at its lowest ebb. During this period of darkness the glee developed itself out of the older and less artistic catch, and the foundation of glee clubs served to keep alive a spark of devotion to music for its own sake. Mr. Barrett writes enthusiastically on his subject, but we think without exaggeration. The glee may not be a very lofty form of art, but like its sister, the madrigal, it is infinitely superior to the modern part-song, which unfortunately has supplanted both in popular favour. He professes an obviously earnest admiration for composers of the English melodic school such as Bishop and Balfe, and predicts a return of favour for their music "when the passion for the ultra-ugly shall have passed away and men shall return to their old loves and their right minds." There is no occasion to express any opinion on this point. In the endeavour to show the evolution of the glee from earlier musical types the author wanders a good deal from his theme, and we venture to suggest that if a second edition of the book be called for, the earlier portion, dealing with the history of music in general, might be curtailed, and the later chapters, which are far more interesting and valuable, expanded.

*The Great Composers.* By George T. Ferris. With an Introduction by Mrs. William Sharp. (Scott.)—The main contents of this closely printed volume first appeared, it would seem, in America, in two volumes, and according to Mrs. Sharp "they have achieved the success they deserved." Our first impression was that the author had been hardly treated by his new editor, as her introduction is not only rambling and nonsensical, but frequently slips in matters of fact. A glance further on, however, shows that author and editor are worthy of one another, for a more carelessly put together and untrustworthy compilation has very seldom come under our notice. The book contains notices of thirty-four composers, the list including "Glück," "Cecubini," and Beethoven, the last-named born 1770, died 1802. The first notice is on Bach, in which we are told that his works include "the 'Matthäus Passion,' for two choruses and two orchestras, one of the masterpieces in music, which was not produced till a century after it was written." Many remarkable anecdotes are told of Handel, one being that during a fit of temper he seized a kettledrum and threw it violently at the leader of the band. After reading this astounding feat it is not surprising to learn that the Paris version of Gluck's 'Orfeo' was produced 1784 instead of 1774; that Mozart was anything but prepossessing in appearance; that among the works Beethoven composed between 1805 and 1808 was 'The Mount of Olives'; and that 'Der Freischütz' was first produced in Dresden, though "it was not till 1821, when it was performed in Berlin, that its greatness was recognized." There are fewer errors in the sketches on modern operatic composers, but the style is just as desultory and disjointed.

*Musical Art and Study.* By Henry C. Banister. (Bell & Sons.)—Mr. Banister's little volume consists of three lectures delivered before various musical associations. The first, entitled "Our Art and our Profession," contains some excellent advice to young musicians, as much of a personal as of a technical nature; and the others, named respectively "Some Methods of Musical Study" and "Musical Ethics and Analogies," may be read with advantage by students, the author's conservative bias giving special value to his remarks at the present time, when the growth of new ideas and developments is calculated to exercise a detrimental influence on musical education.

We have received the Sixth Grade of Mr. Ridley Prentice's *The Musician: a Guide for Pianoforte Students* (Swan Sonnenschein & Co.), which completes an exceedingly useful work. It consists of analyses of a large number of the more advanced pianoforte works of the great masters.

### Musical Gossip.

THE annual festival of the Three Choirs will be held at Worcester during the coming week. On Sunday morning there will be a grand opening service in the Cathedral. Monday will be devoted to rehearsal; and the festival proper will commence on Tuesday morning with a performance of 'Elijah.' Sullivan's 'Golden Legend' and a miscellaneous selection will be given on Tuesday evening. The programme of Wednesday morning includes Schubert's Mass in E flat, Mendelssohn's "Hear my prayer," and Spohr's 'Last Judgment'; and Gounod's 'Redemption' will be performed on the same evening. The novelty of the festival, Cowen's oratorio 'Ruth,' will be produced on Thursday morning, and will be followed by Mendelssohn's 'Hymn of Praise.' Thursday evening's concert will include Stanford's 'Revenge' and a miscellaneous selection; and the festival will be brought to a close on Friday by a performance of the 'Messiah' in the morning and a service by the Three Choirs in the evening. The principal vocalists will be Madame Albani, Misses Anna Williams, Eleanor Rees, and Hope Glenn; and Messrs. E. Lloyd, Barton McGuckin, Brereton, and Watkin Mills. Messrs. Done and C. L. Williams will share the duties of conductor.

DR. HANS VON BÜLOW has taken up his permanent residence in Hamburg, where he will next winter direct various operatic performances and subscription concerts.

M. ADOLPHE JULIEN, whose great work on Richard Wagner was reviewed in these columns some months since (*Athen.* No. 3102), is at present engaged upon a companion volume, to be devoted to Hector Berlioz. The work is to be similar in form, contents, and style of illustration to its predecessor.

A COMPLETE performance of the 'Ring des Nibelungen' is to be given at Dresden on the 10th, 11th, 13th, and 15th inst.

AT a recent meeting of the delegates of the German Musiker-Verband, which, by the way, is a very prosperous association, it was decided to take steps for making a professional examination of music teachers compulsory.

A LISZT-VEREIN is projected at Vienna with the object of promoting the performance of the great master's compositions at the Kaiserstadt, where out of his 1,233 compositions only 206 have hitherto been heard.

PROF. AND SENATOR FRANZ COMMER died in Berlin on August 17th. He was born at Cologne in 1813, and was a zealous disciple of Bach from his earliest years. He was well known for his own numerous contributions to church music, but chiefly for his editions of works of the different schools of church music of the fifteenth, sixteenth, and seventeenth centuries. He made several journeys in Belgium, Holland, and France, collecting materials for these latter publications. Prof. Commer was president of the Tonkünstler-Verein in Cologne, and for the last forty-two years a member of the Berlin Royal Academy of Arts.

### DRAMA

#### THE WEEK.

OPÉRA COMIQUE.—'A Secret Foe,' a Play in Four Acts. By John A. Stevens.  
OLYMPIC.—'The Pointsman,' Drama in a Prologue and Three Acts. By R. C. Carton and Cecil Raleigh.

It is not only on the other side of the Channel that things Russian seem to be in

request. Our stage is deluged with Russian dramas, and its purveyors appear to think that so soon as the familiar characters of melodrama are christened Ivan and Fedor fresh interest will attend their proceedings. The hero, the villain, and, indeed, the characters generally of 'A Secret Foe' have names assumably Russian, and the scene of their comical proceedings is supposed to be St. Petersburg and its vicinity. The story is, however, Parisian, and the only effect of the Russian colouring is to add a wholly unneeded element of improbability. A nobleman who is a confirmed and reckless gambler and a hopeless drunkard, and who, in the moment of a quarrel with his wife, avows himself a Nihilist as complacently as he might own himself a churchwarden, is not a very dangerous foe to the imperial dynasty. It is, indeed, difficult to treat seriously from any standpoint the feverish Parisian melodrama which Mr. Stevens has adapted and spoilt. The motives of its characters are inadequate, their proceedings lack dignity and common sense, and the whole is uninteresting and commonplace. A hero without self-respect or decency, who makes atrocious bets concerning his wife in what is little, if at all, better than a bagnio, a villain whose proceedings are as inept as they are motiveless, and a wife destitute of any sense of propriety, form a bad nucleus for a dramatic action. The subordinate characters, moreover, are no more truthful in conception nor sane in action than their betters, and the comic scenes between an ex-Garibaldian and a short-skirted waiting woman are without interest or value. One or two theatrically effective scenes are reached, the strongest being that in which the tipsy husband, who is backing the charms of his wife against those of a woman there is some difficulty in modern days in qualifying, finds in a veiled auditor of his dishonour the wife herself, who, in company of his supposed friend, has tracked him to his haunts. A second shows the wife herself, who, having opened every portal through which dishonour may enter, makes a despairing fight against the visitor when he arrives. Miss Dorothy Dene as the Countess Demidoff shows, in addition to prettiness and grace, some undisciplined power; Mr. Boleyn acts with earnestness; and Mr. Somerset and Mr. Julian Cross, in not very remunerative parts, display ability. In taking to himself the part of the hero, however, Mr. Stevens has been ill advised. He is apparently far too old for the character, and such capacity as he possesses seems to be in the direction of comedy rather than drama. A risible effect was at least produced when, with an air of profound conviction, he pleaded intoxication as an excuse for proceedings such as justify Emilia's description—

A beggar in his drink  
Could not have laid such terms upon his callat.

Mr. Merivale's bright farce 'A Husband in Clover' was also given.

The authors of 'The Pointsman' have at least made "the gruel thick and slab." Many years have elapsed since a piece combining an equal number of "moving accidents" and stirring crimes has been put on the stage. In the case of a work of this class it is difficult to know what standard to apply. Not a shred of new materials is

employed. Each incident may, in a slightly different form, be traced to another drama, and the characters shift their moral natures more easily than their clothes. The whole is none the less a success. So far as the public is concerned it will divert from the main thoroughfares into Wych Street a constant tide of playgoers. The more sophisticated spectator mean time finds himself held in grip by certain of the situations, and is puzzled to account for the hold that is taken upon him by work so primitive and so crude. Certain advantages and merits may be claimed by the novelty. No special form of romance invests as yet the servants of a railway company. Some day, perhaps, under such altered conditions as the future may have in store for us, it may be pointed out that compared with our railway companies the merchant princes of Venice, when she "did hold the gorgeous East in fee," were mere hucksters, and that those who were concerned in carrying out, amidst surroundings of constant difficulty and not infrequent danger, the work of these huge corporations were doing high service. At present, however, the aspects of railway service are commonplace, and the manner in which Messrs. Carton and Raleigh have assigned to their proceedings a certain flavour not far short of idyllic is creditable. In one scene, in which a signalman alone in his box yields, in spite of a full sense of danger and a resolute struggle against it, to the influence of a narcotic unconsciously taken, they have hit upon an idea which, if more carefully worked out, would be psychologically interesting. That they have, in the scene to which this leads, missed their point, is due to a resolute overcharging of the story with incident. A signalman who has been drugged, who, through the somnolency thus induced, has wrecked an express train, and among the dead with whom the line is strewn finds his own wife, is surely tried enough without placing in the hands of the woman a missive leaving it to be inferred that she is flying to keep a guilty appointment. In this, as in many other cases, the action is overcharged. Separate parts are, moreover, badly knit together, and the whole is what the French call *décousu*. With all these defects upon it, and with the added, if unimportant, fault that the title is a misnomer, since no such thing as a pointsman practically exists in the period in which the action is laid, the novelty is stimulating work, and the favourable verdict it provoked is well earned. The acting in the principal characters is good. Mr. Willard as the villain of the piece, a species of domestic Macbeth, who in his own despite is hurried from crime to crime, acts with a singular combination of ferocity, intensity, and plausibility. His expression is very significant, and the gradual assertion of the passions to which he yields is admirable. Miss Maud Milton, as a woman whom love for the villain renders reckless and infamous, displays remarkable emotional power. Mr. Graham, as the hero, is better at the outset than in the subsequent scenes. Mr. Burnett gives a very comic sketch of a dishonest guard. Miss Agnes Hewitt is graceful and pleasing as the heroine, but lacks strength. Mr. Bernard Gould, Mr. Wood, and other members of the company are seen to fair advantage.

## A LEASH OF CONJECTURAL EMENDATIONS.

I.  
Who, when they see the hours ripe on earth,  
Will rain hot vengeance on offenders' heads.  
Richard II., I. ii. 7, seq.

All editors, as far as they are known to me, agree in declaring *hours* to be a dissyllable. I do not think so, but am convinced that Shakspeare wrote:—

Who, when they see the *hour* is ripe on earth, &c.

The singular *hour* is certainly required; compare '2 Henry IV.,' IV. v. 97, "Before thy hour be ripe," and '1 Henry IV.,' I. iii. 294, "When time is ripe."

## II.

Q. ISAB. Come, son, and go with this gentle lord and me.  
Edward II., V. ii. 105.

An unmetrical line. And before *go* evidently crept in from the preceding line ("and sorrows for it now"), and should be struck out. Marlowe wrote, no doubt:—

Q. ISAB. Come, son, go with this gentle lord and me.

The connective and easily lends itself to interpolation; for another instance see my 'Notes on Elizabethan Dramatists,' vol. ii. p. 184, seq.

## III.

The Panther so  
Breathes odors pretious as the Sarmaticke gums  
Of Easterne groves, but the delicious sent  
Not taken in at distance chokes the sense  
With the too muskie savour.  
Glaphorne, 'Plays and Poems' (Pearson, 1874), I. 127.

Though this passage contains a manifest corruption, yet it has been reproduced without correction in Miss Phipson's 'Animal-Lore of Shakspeare's Time' (London, 1883), p. 23. Instead of "the Sarmaticke gums" read, of course, "the aromatic gums," &c. In the unamended line either the article *the* before *Sarmaticke* must be elided, or we must allow it an extra syllable before the pause, however slight that pause may be (after the fifth syllable). This latter alternative also holds good with respect to the amended line, which looks like an alexandrine, but is not; it is to be scanned:

Breathes *ô* dours *précious* as *th'*aromatic gums.  
K. ELZE.

## Dramatic Gossip.

As is customary, the beginning of September brings with it the opening of Drury Lane Theatre and the beginning of what is known as the winter season. 'Pleasure,' to be this night given at Drury Lane, will include among its exponents Miss Alma Murray, Miss Fanny Brough, Mr. H. Morell, Mr. E. W. Gardiner, and Mr. H. Nicholls. Its serious interest is connected with the recent earthquake on the Riviera.

A ONE-ACT play by Mr. Charles Thomas will shortly be produced as a *lever de rideau* at the Globe Theatre.

On Thursday Mr. Shine replaced at the Princess's Mr. H. Nicholls in 'Shadows of a Great City.'

Two new plays have been successfully produced by Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Dacre in Birmingham. 'Our Joan' is an original drama of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Merivale. 'Twixt Kith and Kin' is an adaptation by Mr. Blood of 'Cut by the County,' a recent story by Miss Braddon.

MRS. KINLOCK, whose death is announced from America, where she played leading parts with actors such as Forest, Wallack, T. A. Cooper, and J. B. Booth, is said to have been born March 7th, 1796. Her name was originally Trautner, and she appeared on the stage as a child early in the century. She was twice married to actors, once in 1817 to John Lane, and ten years later to Mr. Kinlock. She retired from the stage in 1875.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—H. B.—R. D.—G. R. W.—J. F.—  
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